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Seventieth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 20
Sustainable development

South Africa:* draft resolution

Oil slick on Lebanese shores

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 61/194 of 20 December 2006, 62/188 of 19 December 2007, 63/211 of 19 December 2008, 64/195 of 21 December 2009, 65/147 of 20 December 2010, 66/192 of 22 December 2011, 67/201 of 21 December 2012, 68/206 of 20 December 2013 and 69/212 of 19 December 2014 on the oil slick on Lebanese shores,

Reaffirming the outcome of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, especially principle 7 of the Declaration of the Conference,[1] in which States were requested to take all possible steps to prevent pollution of the seas,

Emphasizing the need to protect and preserve the marine environment in accordance with international law,

Taking into account the 1992 Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[2] especially principle 16, in which it was stipulated that the polluter should, in principle, bear the cost of pollution, and taking into account also chapter 17 of Agenda 21,[3]

Noting with great concern the environmental disaster caused by the destruction by the Israeli Air Force on 15 July 2006 of the oil storage tanks in the direct vicinity of El-Jiyeh electric power plant in Lebanon, resulting in an oil slick that covered the entirety of the Lebanese coastline, extended to the Syrian coastline

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] See *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, Stockholm, 5-16 June 1972* (A/CONF.48/14/Rev.1), part one, chap. I.

[2] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[3] Ibid., annex II.

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and hindered efforts to achieve sustainable development, as already highlighted by the General Assembly in its resolutions 61/194, 62/188, 63/211, 64/195, 65/147, 66/192, 67/201, 68/206 and 69/212,

Noting that the Secretary-General expressed grave concern at the lack of any acknowledgement on the part of the Government of Israel of its responsibilities vis-à-vis reparations and compensation to the Government and people of Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic affected by the oil spill,

Recalling that, in paragraph 5 of its resolution 69/212, it reiterated its request to the Government of Israel to assume responsibility for prompt and adequate compensation to the Government of Lebanon and other countries directly affected by the oil slick, such as the Syrian Arab Republic, whose shores have been partially polluted, and recognizing the conclusion of the Secretary-General that this request of the Assembly has yet to be implemented,

Acknowledging that the Secretary-General concluded that this oil spill is not covered by any of the international oil spill compensation funds and thus merits special consideration, and recognizing that further consideration needs to be given to the option of securing the relevant compensation from the Government of Israel,

Acknowledging also the conclusions on measuring and quantifying the environmental damage set out in the report of the Secretary-General,[4]

Noting again with appreciation the assistance offered by donor countries and international organizations for the clean-up operations and the early recovery and reconstruction of Lebanon through bilateral and multilateral channels, including the Athens Coordination Meeting on the response to the marine pollution incident in the Eastern Mediterranean, held on 17 August 2006, as well as the Stockholm Conference for Lebanon's Early Recovery, held on 31 August 2006,

Acknowledging that the Secretary-General has welcomed the agreement of the Lebanon Recovery Fund to host the Eastern Mediterranean Oil Spill Restoration Trust Fund, under its existing mechanism, and expressing concern that to date no contributions have been made to the Trust Fund,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[4]

2. *Reiterates*, for the tenth consecutive year, its deep concern about the adverse implications of the destruction by the Israeli Air Force of the oil storage tanks in the direct vicinity of the Lebanese El-Jiyeh electric power plant for the achievement of sustainable development in Lebanon;

3. *Considers* that the oil slick has heavily polluted the shores of Lebanon and partially polluted Syrian shores and consequently has had serious implications for livelihoods and the economy of Lebanon, owing to the adverse implications for natural resources, biodiversity, fisheries and tourism, and for human health in the country;

4. *Acknowledges* the conclusions in the report of the Secretary-General, in which he stated that studies show that the value of the damage to Lebanon amounted to 856.4 million United States dollars in 2014, and requests the Secretary-General to urge United Nations bodies and agencies and other relevant organizations involved

[4] A/70/291.

in the initial assessment of the relevant environmental damage to undertake, within existing resources, a further study, building on, inter alia, the initial work of the World Bank presented in the report of the Secretary-General submitted to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session,[5] with a view to measuring and quantifying the environmental damage sustained by neighbouring countries;

5. *Reiterates its request* in this regard to the Government of Israel to assume responsibility for prompt and adequate compensation to the Government of Lebanon for the aforementioned damage and to other countries directly affected by the oil slick, such as the Syrian Arab Republic, whose shores have been partially polluted, for the costs of repairing the environmental damage caused by the destruction, including the restoration of the marine environment, in particular in the light of the conclusion contained in the report of the Secretary-General that there remains grave concern at the lack of implementation of the relevant provisions of the resolutions of the General Assembly on the subject vis-à-vis reparations and compensation to the Government and people of Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic affected by the oil spill;

6. *Reiterates its appreciation* for the efforts of the Government of Lebanon and those of Member States, regional and international organizations, regional and international financial institutions, non-governmental organizations and the private sector in the initiation of clean-up and rehabilitation operations on the polluted shores, and encourages Member States and the above-mentioned entities to continue their financial and technical support to the Government of Lebanon towards achieving the completion of clean-up and rehabilitation operations, with the aim of preserving the ecosystem of Lebanon and that of the Eastern Mediterranean Basin;

7. *Welcomes* the agreement of the Lebanon Recovery Fund to host the Eastern Mediterranean Oil Spill Restoration Trust Fund, based on voluntary contributions, to provide assistance and support to the States directly and adversely affected in their integrated environmentally sound management, from clean-up to safe disposal of oily waste, of this environmental disaster resulting from the destruction of the oil storage tanks at El-Jiyeh electric power plant;

8. *Notes* that in his report the Secretary-General urged Member States, international organizations, international and regional financial institutions, non-governmental organizations and the private sector to intensify their support for Lebanon in this matter, in particular for recovery and rehabilitation activities on the Lebanese coast, reiterates its invitation to States and the international donor community to make voluntary financial contributions to the Trust Fund, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to mobilize international technical and financial assistance in order to ensure that the Trust Fund has sufficient and adequate resources;

9. *Recognizes* the multidimensionality of the adverse impact of the oil slick, and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-first session a report on the implementation of the present resolution under the item entitled "Sustainable development".

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[5] A/62/343.

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Seventieth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 20 (c)
Sustainable development: International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

South Africa: draft resolution**

International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 54/219 of 22 December 1999, 56/195 of 21 December 2001, 60/195 of 22 December 2005, 64/200 of 21 December 2009, 65/157 of 20 December 2010, 66/199 of 22 December 2011, 67/209 of 21 December 2012 and 68/211 of 20 December 2013, 69/219 of 19 December 2014 and 69/283 and 69/284 of 3 June 2015, and taking into consideration all other relevant resolutions,

Reaffirming the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[1] in particular the decisions related to disaster risk reduction,

Recalling the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[2] Agenda 21,[3] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[4] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[5] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),[6]

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* Reissued for technical reasons on 30 October 2015.

** On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[2] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[3] Ibid., annex II.

[4] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[5] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[6] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

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Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", recognizing that it builds on the Millennium Development Goals and seeks to complete their unfinished business, and stressing the importance of the implementation of this new ambitious Agenda, which has poverty eradication at its core and aims at promoting the social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainable development,

Recalling that this new Agenda recognizes the importance of promoting resilience and disaster risk reduction for sustainable development,

Reaffirming its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it and helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions within the framework of a revitalized Global Partnership for Sustainable Development,

Recalling that the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, inter alia, seeks to develop and implement holistic disaster risk management at all levels in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030,[7]

Welcoming the Sendai Declaration[8] and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, and expressing its profound gratitude to the Government and the people of Japan for hosting the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, from 14 to 18 March 2015, and to Member States that provided all the necessary support,

Recognizing that the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 emphasizes disaster risk management, particularly improving, as adequate, understanding of disaster risk, strengthening risk governance to better manage disaster risk, investing in disaster risk reduction for resilience, and enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response and to "build back better" in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction,

Expressing deep concern at the number, increasing frequency and scale of disasters and their devastating impact in recent years, which have resulted in massive loss of life and long-term negative social, economic and environmental consequences for vulnerable societies throughout the world and hamper the achievement of their sustainable development, in particular in developing countries,

Underscoring climate change as one of the drivers of disaster risk and that addressing climate change represents an opportunity to reduce disaster risk in a meaningful and coherent manner throughout the interrelated intergovernmental processes, while respecting the mandate of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,

Expressing its concern with regard to forecasts that the world could be on the verge of the strongest El Niño phenomenon in recorded history, which would involve extreme temperature variations, floods and droughts worldwide that would particularly affect people in vulnerable situations,

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[7] Resolution 69/283, annex II.

[8] Ibid., annex I.

Recognizing that disaster-prone developing countries, in particular least developed countries, small island developing States, landlocked developing countries and African countries, as well as middle-income countries facing specific challenges, warrant particular attention in view of their higher vulnerability and disaster risk levels, which often greatly exceed their capacity to respond to and recover from disasters, and recognizing also that similar attention and appropriate assistance should be extended to other disaster-prone countries with specific characteristics, such as archipelagic countries, as well as countries with extensive coastlines,

Noting the initiative of the Secretary-General to hold the World Humanitarian Summit in 2016 and that one of its themes is "Reducing vulnerability and managing risk" in the context of disaster risk reduction,

Stressing the importance of inclusiveness within the United Nations development system and that observer States be taken into account in the implementation of the present resolution,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 69/219;[9]

2. *Calls upon* the international community to fully implement the commitments in the Sendai Declaration[8] and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030;[7]

3. *Strongly encourages* giving appropriate consideration to disaster risk reduction as a cross-cutting issue of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[10] directly and indirectly reflected across the outcome document;

4. *Stresses* the importance of the continued substantive consideration of the issue of disaster risk reduction, and encourages Member States and observer States and the relevant United Nations bodies to take into consideration the important role of coordinated disaster risk reduction activities for, inter alia, the achievement of sustainable development;

5. *Reiterates* its strong encouragement of and the need for effective coordination and coherence, as applicable, across policies, institutions, goals, indicators and measurement systems for implementation, between the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda[11] and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, as well as the outcomes of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, while respecting the respective mandates, in order to build synergies and resilience, and achieving the global goal of eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty;

6. *Calls for* the substantial reduction of disaster risk and losses in lives, livelihoods and health and in the economic, physical, social, cultural and environmental assets of persons, businesses, communities and countries;

7. *Also calls for* preventing new and reducing existing disaster risk through the implementation of integrated and inclusive economic, structural, legal, social,

[9] A/70/282.
[10] Resolution 70/1.
[11] Resolution 69/313.

health, cultural, educational, environmental, technological, political and institutional measures that prevent and reduce hazard exposure and vulnerability to disaster, increase preparedness for response and recovery, and thus strengthen resilience;

8. *Recognizes* the need for focused action within and across sectors by States at the local, national, regional and global levels in the four priority areas, namely understanding disaster risk, strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk, investing in disaster risk reduction for resilience, and enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response and to "build back better" in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction;

9. *Reaffirms* the importance of strengthening international cooperation in the face of disasters, weather-related hazards and the adverse effects of climate change, including the El Niño phenomenon, to prevent major damage and ensure an adequate response and attention to the affected populations in a timely manner in order to ensure resilience to their impacts;

10. *Recognizes* that, while States have overall responsibility and a fundamental role, reducing disaster risk is a shared effort between Governments and relevant stakeholders, including major groups, parliaments, civil society, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, non-governmental organizations, national platforms for disaster risk reduction, focal points for the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, local government representatives, scientific institutions and the private sector, as well as organizations of the United Nations system and intergovernmental organizations;

11. *Stresses* the importance of mainstreaming a gender perspective and the perspectives of persons with disabilities in disaster risk management so as to strengthen the resilience of communities and reduce social vulnerabilities to disasters, and in this regard recognizes the need, as adequate, for the inclusive participation and contribution of women, youth and children, older persons, persons with disabilities, migrants, indigenous peoples, local communities, academia, scientific and research entities and networks, business, professional associations, private sector financing institutions and the media in all relevant forums and processes related to disaster risk reduction;

12. *Looks forward* to deliberations of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, the regional and subregional platforms for disaster risk reduction and the thematic platforms in order to forge partnerships, periodically assess progress on implementation and share practice and knowledge on disaster risk-informed policies, programmes and investments, including on development and climate issues, as appropriate, as well as to promote the integration of disaster risk management in other relevant sectors; regional intergovernmental organizations should play an important role in the regional platforms for disaster risk reduction;

13. *Takes note* of the recommendation of the Secretary-General that underlines the need, over the next three years, to carry out a stocktaking of disaster risk management practices and give adequate priority to the assessment of disaster risk and the development of baselines to assess disaster risk trends;

14. *Recognizes* the importance of giving priority to the development of local and national disaster risk reduction capacity-building, policies, strategies and plans over the next five years with the participation of all relevant stakeholders, in accordance with national practices and legislation;

15. *Takes note* of the recommendation of the Secretary-General that underlines the need to give due consideration to the establishment or strengthening of national mechanisms for disaster risk reduction, such as national platforms for disaster risk reduction, in the light of their characteristics indicated in the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030;

16. *Requests* the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction to provide technical expertise and support to developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, small island developing States, landlocked developing countries and African countries, as well as middle-income countries, given the scale of action needed with respect to national disaster loss databases for accelerated implementation of these priority actions;

17. *Welcomes* the commencement of the work of the open-ended intergovernmental expert working group on indicators and terminology relating to disaster risk reduction, and looks forward to its outcomes, coherent with the work of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators;

18. *Decides* to include the review of the global progress in the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 as part of the integrated and coordinated follow-up processes to United Nations conferences and summits, aligned with the Economic and Social Council, the high-level political forum on sustainable development and the quadrennial comprehensive policy review cycles, as appropriate, taking into account the contributions of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction and regional platforms for disaster risk reduction and the updated monitoring tool based on the Hyogo Framework for Action Monitor;

19. *Reaffirms* that developing countries need enhanced provision of coordinated, sustained and adequate international support for disaster risk reduction, through bilateral and multilateral channels, including through enhanced technical and financial support and technology transfer on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed, for the development and strengthening of their capacities; and the need to enhance access of States, in particular developing countries, to finance, environmentally sound technology, science and inclusive innovation, as well as knowledge and information sharing through existing mechanisms; to promote the use and expansion of thematic platforms of cooperation, to share know-how, innovation and research and ensure access to technology and information on disaster risk reduction; and to incorporate disaster risk reduction measures into multilateral and bilateral development assistance programmes within and across all sectors, as appropriate, related to poverty reduction, sustainable development, natural resource management, the environment, urban development and adaptation to climate change;

20. *Requests* the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction to support the implementation, follow-up and review of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030;

21. *Acknowledges* the importance of the work of the United Nations in disaster risk reduction, the growing demands on the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction and the need for increased, timely, stable and predictable financial and non-financial resources for the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to allocate resources from the United Nations programme budget for the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction;

23. *Encourages* States to contribute to the United Nations Trust Fund for Disaster Reduction;

24. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to include observer States in the implementation of the present resolution;

25. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-first session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", a sub-item entitled "Disaster risk reduction";

26. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-first session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

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Second Committee
Agenda item 24 (c)
Eradication of poverty and other developmental issues: human resources development

South Africa:* draft resolution

Human resources development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 52/196 of 18 December 1997, 54/211 of 22 December 1999, 56/189 of 21 December 2001, 58/207 of 23 December 2003, 60/211 of 22 December 2005, 62/207 of 19 December 2007, 64/218 of 21 December 2009, 66/217 of 22 December 2011 and 68/228 of 20 December 2013,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", recognizing that it builds on the Millennium Development Goals and seeks to complete their unfinished business, and stressing the importance of the implementation of this new ambitious Agenda, which has poverty eradication at its core and aims at promoting the social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainable development,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it and helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions within the framework of a revitalized Global Partnership for Sustainable Development,

Stressing that human resources development lies at the heart of economic, social and environmental development and that health and education are at the core of human resources development,

Stressing also that human resources development is vital to the efforts to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals, and to expand opportunities for people, in particular for the most vulnerable groups of the population,

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

Welcoming the considerable efforts made over the years, yet recognizing that many countries continue to face formidable challenges in developing a sufficient pool of human resources capable of meeting national economic and social needs and that the formulation and implementation of effective human resources strategies often require resources and capacities not always available in developing countries, and also recognizing the need for new ways to address human resources development,

Stressing that human resources development is even more critical in view of the current global challenges, including, despite evidence of an uneven and fragile recovery, the ongoing adverse impacts, particularly on development, of the world financial and economic crisis, in order to tackle the negative effects of the global crisis and set the basis for sustained, inclusive and equitable growth and recovery,

Stressing also that climate change is a significant development challenge, and that improving educational and institutional capacities to tackle climate change falls under human resources development efforts to ensure that populations can lead healthy and prosperous lives,

Recognizing that the benefits of human resources development are best realized in national and international environments that support equal opportunity, access to education and non-discrimination and maintain an enabling environment for job creation,

Recognizing also that despite evidence of an uneven and fragile recovery, the ongoing adverse impacts, particularly on development, of the world financial and economic crisis continue to diminish the ability of many countries, especially developing countries, to cope with and address human resources development challenges and to formulate and implement effective strategies for poverty eradication and sustainable development,

Acknowledging the important nexus between international migration and development and the need to deal with the challenges and opportunities that migration presents to countries of origin, transit and destination, recognizing that migration brings benefits as well as challenges to the global community, and stressing that the brain drain continues to be a severe problem in many developing and transitioning countries, undermining efforts in the area of human resources development,

Recognizing the need to align science, technological knowledge and innovation systems with national development objectives, fully integrated with national human resources development and poverty eradication strategies and supported by appropriate institutional and policy frameworks, which can lead to positive transformations in people's lives,

Acknowledging that science, technological knowledge and innovation policies should take into account the specific features of the economy in developing countries, including the size of the traditional sector, the importance of preserving and safeguarding indigenous knowledge, the limited access to skilled labour and capital, weak infrastructure and inadequate institutional frameworks, in order to generate solutions that address the specific challenges of those countries and to foster synergies between modern science and technology and indigenous and local knowledge, practices and innovation, in accordance with the vital role and

participation of indigenous and local communities in deciding the level of access and sharing benefits,

Reaffirming that gender equality is of fundamental importance for achieving sustained economic growth, poverty eradication and sustainable development, in accordance with the relevant General Assembly resolutions and United Nations conferences, and that investing in the development of women and girls has a multiplier effect, in particular on productivity, efficiency and sustained economic growth, in all sectors of the economy, especially in key areas such as agriculture, industry and services,

Recognizing that education is the key to promoting the development of human potential, equality and understanding among peoples, as well as to sustaining economic growth and eradicating poverty, and recognizing also that, to achieve those ends, it is essential that quality education be available to all, including indigenous peoples, girls and women, rural inhabitants and persons with disabilities,

Stressing that Governments have the primary responsibility for defining and implementing appropriate policies for human resources development, and the need for continued support from the international community for the national efforts of developing countries,

Stressing the importance of inclusiveness within the United Nations development system and that observer States be taken into account in the implementation of the present resolution,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[1]

2. *Calls upon* Member States to place human resources development at the core of economic and social development and to develop short-, medium- and long-term strategies to effectively enhance their human resources capacities, as educated, skilled, healthy, capable, productive and flexible workforces are the foundation for achieving sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth and development;

3. *Stresses* the need for Member States to emphasize and integrate human resources development into national development strategies, including national development policies and strategies to eradicate poverty and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, in order to address structural and multidimensional challenges to enhancing national productive capacities and to ensure that human resources development implications are taken into account by all national development stakeholders;

4. *Recognizes* that comprehensive approaches to human resources development that address poverty eradication and the creation of a skilled workforce are also critical in reducing unemployment and brain drain and in promoting greater social inclusion;

5. *Encourages* Member States to adopt and implement comprehensive human resources development strategies premised on national development objectives that ensure a strong link between education, training and employment, help to maintain a productive and competitive workforce and are responsive to the needs of the economy;

[1] A/70/293.

6. *Stresses* that human resources development policies should focus on supporting the emergence of a sufficiently wide and flexible pool of skilled human resources, especially among women and youth, to support all sectors of the economy and be matched with present and future workforce needs, which requires well-sequenced investments in basic education, vocational training, on-the-job training and more advanced managerial, engineering and scientific education to increase the supply of technological knowledge that can be absorbed by national innovation systems;

7. *Emphasizes* the need for Member States to adopt cross-sectoral approaches and mechanisms to identify human resources development needs in the medium and long term for all sectors of the economy and to formulate and implement policies and programmes to address those needs;

8. *Recognizes* that comprehensive and flexible science, technological knowledge and innovation strategies that encompass all sectors of the economy are critical to ensuring that skills are matched with labour market demand and ready to adapt to and benefit from a constantly evolving technology landscape;

9. *Emphasizes* that when science, technological knowledge and innovation and human resources development approaches are mutually reinforcing they can lead to a virtuous circle of economic growth, human progress and sustainable development;

10. *Stresses* that investment in human resources development should be an integral part of national development policies and strategies, and in this regard calls for the adoption of policies to facilitate investment focused on physical and social infrastructure, including education, in particular skills upgrading and vocational training in areas such as science and technology, including information and communications technology, as well as in capacity development, health and sustainable development;

11. *Encourages* Member States, as appropriate, to continue to strengthen comprehensive social protection systems, to adopt policies that strengthen existing safety nets and protect vulnerable groups and to take other appropriate actions, including boosting domestic consumption and production, recognizes that social protection floors, defined according to national priorities and the individual circumstances of Member States, can provide systemic approaches to address poverty and vulnerability and can contribute significantly to successful human resources development strategies, acknowledges in this regard that many developing countries lack the necessary financial resources and capacity to implement such countercyclical measures, and in this regard recognizes the need for continued mobilization of additional domestic and international resources, as appropriate;

12. *Encourages* Member States in a position to do so to consider implementing, and the States members of the International Labour Organization to implement, policies consistent with the International Labour Organization Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work and their obligations under all relevant ratified conventions of the International Labour Organization, and recalls the importance of promoting decent work for all and of increasing quality jobs, including through measures aimed at ensuring occupational health and safety and through working relationships based on effective social dialogue;

13. *Stresses* that human resources development strategies should include measures aimed at reducing unemployment and underemployment among young men and women and the long-term unemployed, who have been disproportionately affected by slow growth in jobs recovery, and to integrate underutilized human resources into the labour market through policies that promote skills development and productivity and reduce barriers to employment, including gender barriers, including by providing incentives as appropriate for recruiting, retaining and retooling, assistance in job-finding and job-matching and vocational and on-the-job training, and by promoting, inter alia, youth entrepreneurship, noting in this regard the call for action by the International Labour Conference;

14. *Also stresses* the need for Member States to retain and further enhance national human resources by boosting job-rich recovery and promoting decent work, including by adopting policies and incentives that enhance labour productivity and stimulate private investment and entrepreneurship and strengthen the role of labour administration and institutions in order to foster job creation and increase the participation of vulnerable groups, including workers in informal sectors;

15. *Emphasizes* the need to address the interlinkages among human resources development, energy and food security, agriculture and rural development, and encourages Member States to strengthen capacity in agriculture and rural development;

16. *Encourages* Member States to adopt and implement human resources development policies that create dynamic capabilities and core skills to develop, facilitate access to and apply environmentally sound technologies that are relevant for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, including by contributing to the successful operationalization of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism;

17. *Stresses* that sustainable development is dependent, inter alia, on healthy human resources, calls upon Member States to continue their efforts to strengthen national health systems, urges the further strengthening of international cooperation in the area of health, inter alia, by considering promoting universal health coverage and through the exchange of best practices in the areas of strengthening health systems, access to medicines, training of health personnel, transfer of technology and production of affordable, safe, effective and good-quality medicine, and in this regard stresses that international cooperation and assistance, in particular external funding, need to become more predictable and to be better aligned with national priorities and channelled to recipient countries in ways that strengthen national health systems;

18. *Calls upon* the international community, including the entities of the United Nations system, to support the efforts of developing countries to address the adverse effects of HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis and other infectious diseases, in particular in Africa, as well as the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases, which is a challenge of epidemic proportions, and their effects on human resources;

19. *Calls upon* relevant United Nations entities to support national efforts to build institutional capacities to address long-term national human resources development needs in addition to providing training to individuals;

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20. *Calls upon* the international community to assist developing countries in the implementation of national human resources development strategies, and encourages the international community, including the private sector and relevant civil society actors, to provide and mobilize financial resources, capacity-building, technical assistance and technology transfer on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed;

21. *Calls for* steps to integrate gender perspectives into human resources development, including through policies, strategies and targeted actions aimed at promoting women's capacities and access to productive activities, and in this regard emphasizes the need to ensure the full participation of women in the formulation and implementation of such policies, strategies and actions;

22. *Stresses* the important contributions of the public and private sectors, respectively, in meeting national training and education needs to support the efficient functioning of enterprises and matching the needs of a rapidly changing economy, and encourages the integration of those contributions, including through the greater use of public-private partnerships and incentives;

23. *Calls for* actions at the national, regional and international levels that will give high priority to improving and expanding literacy, as well as science proficiency, including by providing tertiary, technical vocational and adult education, and stresses the need to ensure that, by 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling and will have equal access to all levels of education;

24. *Encourages* Governments to consider appropriate measures at the national level, such as upgrading human skills, better aligning educational and training systems to labour market needs and strengthening labour institutions and regulations to respond to economic downturns;

25. *Encourages* countries in a position to do so to maintain or consider enhancing measures to boost job-rich recovery, such as policies and incentives to enhance labour productivity and stimulate private investment, in addition to efforts to reduce budget deficits in the long term, as appropriate;

26. *Encourages* efforts by Member States and the international community to promote a balanced, coherent and comprehensive approach to international migration and development, in particular by building partnerships and ensuring coordinated action to develop capacities, including for the management of migration, and in this regard reiterates the need to consider innovative measures to maximize the benefits of migration while minimizing the negative effects of the migration of both highly skilled and low-skilled workers from developing countries;

27. *Encourages* giving appropriate consideration to human resources development strategies in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

28. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to include observer States in the implementation of the present resolution;

29. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "Eradication of poverty and other development issues", the sub-item entitled "Human resources development", and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

United Nations A/C.2/70/L.17

General Assembly

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Seventieth session
Agenda item 20 (b)
Sustainable development: follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

South Africa:* draft resolution

Follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the Declaration of Barbados[1] and the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[2] the Mauritius Declaration[3] and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[4] the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway (Samoa Pathway)[5] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),[6] including chapter VII, on the sustainable development of small island developing States,

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April-6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[2] Ibid., annex II.

[3] *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10-14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[4] Ibid., annex II.

[5] Resolution 69/15, annex.

[6] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

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Please recycle

Reaffirming also the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, entitled "The future we want",[7]

Reaffirming further its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", recognizing that it builds on the Millennium Development Goals and seeks to complete their unfinished business, and stressing the importance of the implementation of this new ambitious Agenda, which has poverty eradication at its core and aims at promoting the social, economic, and environmental dimensions of sustainable development,

Reaffirming its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, and helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions within the framework of a revitalized Global Partnership for Sustainable Development,

Reaffirming also the outcome documents and decisions of all conferences and processes related to the sustainable development priorities of small island developing States, including, inter alia, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030,[8]

Looking ahead to the session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Paris in December, underscoring the commitment of all States to work for an ambitious and universal climate agreement, and reaffirming that the protocol, another legal instrument or agreed outcome with legal force under the Convention applicable to all parties shall address in a balanced manner, inter alia, mitigation, adaptation, finance, technology development and transfer, and capacity-building, and transparency of action and support,

Recalling its resolutions 67/206 of 21 December 2012, 67/290 of 9 July 2013, 68/1 of 20 September 2013, 69/15 of 14 November 2014, 69/217 of 19 December 2014, and 69/288 of 8 June 2015,

Reaffirming that small island developing States remain a special case for sustainable development, in view of their unique and particular vulnerabilities, and that they remain constrained in meeting their goals in all three dimensions of sustainable development, and recognizing the ownership and leadership of small island developing States in overcoming some of these challenges, while stressing that, in the absence of international cooperation, achieving success will remain difficult,

Welcoming the partnerships announced at, inter alia, the International Conference on Small Island Developing States, held in Apia from 1 to 4 September 2014, by Governments, international and regional organizations, the private sector, civil society and major groups, recognizing, in this regard, that international cooperation and partnerships of various kinds and across a wide variety of stakeholders are critical for the implementation of the sustainable development of

[7] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[8] Resolution 69/283, annex II.

small island developing States, and welcoming also the informal partnership dialogue held in New York on 25 June 2015,

Welcoming also the meetings of the high-level political forum on sustainable development under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council, in particular the meeting on small island developing States under the theme "The Samoa Pathway: translating vision to action", held on 1 July 2015,

Recognizing that it is crucial to mobilize resources from all sources for the effective implementation of the Samoa Pathway,

Recognizing that, in spite of the considerable efforts of small island developing States and the mobilization of their limited resources, their progress in the attainment of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and in implementing the Barbados Programme of Action and the Mauritius Strategy has been uneven, that some have regressed economically and that a number of significant challenges remain,

Reaffirming the need to mainstream sustainable development at all levels, integrating economic, social and environmental aspects, and recognizing their interlinkages, so as to enable small island developing States to achieve sustainable development in all its dimensions,

Recalling the successful conclusion in February 2015 of the International Year of Small Island Developing States: 2014, and the contribution of the international year in raising global awareness of the sustainable development challenges faced by small island developing States, as well as their rich culture and natural heritage,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[9]

2. *Reaffirms* the outcome document of the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway, and urges its speedy and effective implementation, as well as effective follow-up and review;

3. *Welcomes* the renewed commitment of the international community to taking urgent and concrete action to address the vulnerabilities of small island developing States and to continuing to seek solutions, including additional ones, to the major challenges facing them in a concerted manner to support the implementation of the Samoa Pathway;

4. *Reaffirms* the sustainable development priorities for small island developing States identified in the Samoa Pathway, and set out in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and the outcome documents of all related United Nations conferences and processes;

5. *Acknowledges* in this regard that small island developing States are committed to the implementation of the Samoa Pathway and to that effect are mobilizing resources at the national and regional levels, despite their limited resource base, and calls upon the international community to assist and support small island developing States in the implementation of the Samoa Pathway, including by integrating its provisions into their national and regional policies and development frameworks;

[9] A/70/269.

6. *Urges* all partners to integrate the Samoa Pathway into their respective cooperation frameworks, programmes and activities, as appropriate, to ensure the effective follow-up to and implementation of the Samoa Pathway;

7. *Recalls* the need to fully mainstream a gender perspective into all United Nations summits, conferences and special sessions and their follow-up processes;

8. *Calls upon* the United Nations system, international and regional financial institutions and other multilateral development partners to continue to support small island developing States in their efforts to implement national sustainable development strategies and programmes by incorporating the priorities and activities of small island developing States into their relevant strategic and programmatic frameworks, including through the United Nations Development Assistance Framework process, at both the national and regional levels, in line with their mandates and overall priorities;

9. *Urges* the full and effective implementation of the commitments and partnerships announced at the Conference and the fulfilment of the provisions on all means of implementation, as contained in the Samoa Pathway;

10. *Welcomes* the convening of the Ministerial Meeting on Food Security and Climate Adaptation in Small Island Developing States, held in Milan, Italy, from 14 to 16 October 2015, and takes note with appreciation of the Milan Declaration on Enhancing Food Security and Climate Adaptation in Small Island Developing States, within the framework of the Samoa Pathway;

11. *Decides*, in accordance with paragraph 101 of the Samoa Pathway, and in line with the priorities of small island developing States, to establish the Small Island Developing States Partnership Framework, to monitor and ensure the full implementation of pledges and commitments through partnerships for small island developing States, in order to promote the effective and efficient follow-up to the existing partnerships, in particular new partnerships launched at the Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, and to encourage new, genuine and durable partnerships for the sustainable development of small island developing States, and in this regard:

(a) To form a Steering Committee that shall be open to all States Members of the United Nations or members of specialized agencies, chaired by one SIDS and one non-SIDS Member State, to support the follow-up of existing, and promote and advocate for the launch of new, small island developing States partnerships. United Nations entities, international and regional organizations, major groups and other stakeholders will be invited to contribute as appropriate; the United Nations Secretariat, in particular the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, and the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, will provide a supporting role to the Steering Committee; the first meeting of the Committee should be held as soon as possible, and no later than February 2016, when it will discuss, inter alia, the working methods of the Committee;

(b) To organize on an annual basis, an action-oriented, results-focused, Global Multi-stakeholder small island developing States Partnership Dialogue, which will provide opportunities for reviewing progress made by existing partnerships, sharing good practice, lessons learned, challenges and solutions from

small island developing States partnerships, and encourage the launch of new partnerships for small island developing States in line with their priorities;

(c) The Global Multi-stakeholder SIDS Partnership Dialogue will review partnership progress reports from, where applicable, regional and national partnership dialogues and a standardized reporting mechanism will be developed for this purpose, in consultation with Member States, which takes into account existing reporting mechanisms and the need to minimize reporting burden, and ensure reporting coherence;

(d) *To encourage* regional multi-stakeholder small island developing States partnership dialogues through existing forums, where applicable, and notably through the regional commissions, in close collaboration with small island developing States and partners, for reviewing and providing policy recommendations at the regional level;

(e) *To encourage* small island developing States to organize national multi-stakeholder SIDS partnership dialogues on a voluntary basis, according to their needs, priorities and circumstances, and invites the United Nations system and the international community, upon request, to support small island developing States in this regard;

12. *Requests* the Joint Inspection Unit to submit the complete results of the comprehensive review of United Nations system support for small island developing States, as an addendum to the report of the Secretary-General[9] before the end of the seventieth session, in accordance with resolution 69/288;

13. *Underlines* the need to give due consideration to the issues and concerns of small island developing States in all relevant major United Nations conferences and processes;

14. *Decides* to devote one day at future meetings of the high-level political forum on sustainable development to addressing the sustainable development challenges facing small island developing States and the follow-up to and implementation of the Samoa Pathway;

15. *Urges* effective linkages to be made between the follow-up and review arrangements for the 2030 Agenda with those of all relevant United Nations conferences and processes, including the Samoa Pathway, in line with paragraph 82 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

16. *Decides* to conduct a midterm review, and follow up on progress made in addressing the priorities of small island developing States through the implementation of the Samoa Pathway, no later than 2019;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-first session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

18. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-first session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States".

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General Assembly

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Seventieth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 20 (d)
Sustainable development: protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind

South Africa:* draft resolution

Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 43/53 of 6 December 1988, 54/222 of 22 December 1999, 62/86 of 10 December 2007, 63/32 of 26 November 2008, 64/73 of 7 December 2009, 65/159 of 20 December 2010, 66/200 of 22 December 2011, 67/210 of 21 December 2012, 68/212 of 20 December 2013 and 69/220 of 19 December 2014, and other resolutions and decisions relating to the protection of the global climate for present and future generations of humankind,

Recalling also the objectives, principles and provisions of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[1]

Recalling further that the global nature of climate change calls for the widest possible cooperation by all countries and their participation in an effective and appropriate international response, with a view to accelerating the reduction of global greenhouse gas emissions, in the context of article 2 of the Convention, and that the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change provides that parties should protect the climate system for the benefit of present and future generations of humankind on the basis of equity and in accordance with their common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities,

Acknowledging that the developed country parties must take the lead in combating climate change and its adverse effects,

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

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Please recycle

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[2] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[3] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),[4] the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[5] the outcomes of the thirteenth to twentieth sessions of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and of the third to tenth sessions of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020, adopted at the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held in Istanbul, Turkey, from 9 to 13 May 2011,[6] the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[7] the Mauritius Declaration[8] and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States[9] and the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway,[10]

Recalling also the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, entitled "The future we want",[11]

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", recognizing that it builds on the Millennium Development Goals and seeks to complete their unfinished business, and stressing the importance of the implementation of this new ambitious Agenda, which has poverty eradication at its core and aims at promoting the social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainable development,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it and helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions within the framework of a revitalized Global Partnership for Sustainable Development,

Taking note of the successful and timely initial resource mobilization process of the Green Climate Fund, making it the largest dedicated climate fund and

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[2] Resolution 55/2.

[3] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[4] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[5] Resolution 60/1.

[6] *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9-13 May 2011* (A/CONF.219/7), chap. II.

[7] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April-6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[8] *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10-14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[9] Ibid., annex II.

[10] Resolution 69/15, annex.

[11] Resolution 66/288, annex.

enabling it to start its activities in supporting developing country parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,

Stressing the importance of inclusiveness within the United Nations development system and that observer States be taken into account in the implementation of the present resolution,

1. *Reaffirms* that climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time, expresses profound alarm that the emissions of greenhouse gases continue to rise globally, remains deeply concerned that all countries, particularly developing countries, are vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change and are already experiencing an increase in such impacts, including persistent drought and extreme weather events, sea-level rise, coastal erosion and ocean acidification, further threatening food security and efforts to eradicate poverty and achieve sustainable development, and in this regard emphasizes that adaptation to climate change represents an immediate and urgent global priority;

2. *Notes* the determination of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, expressed in its decision 2/CP.18,[12] to adopt a protocol, another legal instrument or an agreed outcome with legal force under the Convention applicable to all parties at its twenty-first session, to be held in Paris from 30 November to 11 December 2015, and for it to come into effect and be implemented from 2020;

3. *Takes note* of the outcome of the twentieth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and of the tenth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, hosted by the Government of Peru in Lima from 1 to 14 December 2014, and in particular its invitation, in its decision 1/CP.20,[13] to all parties to initiate or intensify domestic preparations for their intended nationally determined contributions, without prejudice to the legal nature of the contributions, in the context of adopting a protocol, another legal instrument or an agreed outcome with legal force under the Convention applicable to all parties towards achieving the objective of the Convention, as set out in its article 2, and to communicate them well in advance of the twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties in a manner that facilitates the clarity, transparency and understanding of the intended contributions, without prejudice to the legal nature of the contributions;

4. *Notes* the reiteration by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention that the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action shall be guided by the principles of the Convention;

5. *Acknowledges* that the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change is the primary international, intergovernmental forum for negotiating the global response to climate change, taking into account the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action on, inter alia, mitigation, adaptation, finance, technology development and transfer, capacity-building and transparency of action and support;

[12] See FCCC/CP/2012/8/Add.1.
[13] See FCCC/CP/2014/10/Add.1.

6. *Takes note* of the report of the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change on the United Nations Climate Change Conference held in Lima from 1 to 14 December 2014;[14]

7. *Also takes note* of decision 2/CP.20, taken by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention at its twentieth session,[15] by which Parties agreed on the composition of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts, and its workplan;

8. *Notes* the work undertaken by the Lima-Paris Action Agenda with a view to galvanizing action to address climate change;

9. *Notes* with appreciation the hosting by the Government of France of the twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and the eleventh session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, in Paris from 30 November to 11 December 2015;

10. *Welcomes* the offer by the Government of Morocco to host the twenty-second session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention in 2016;

11. *Urges* Member States to promote the integration of a gender perspective into environmental and climate change policies and strengthen mechanisms and provide adequate resources to ensure the full and equal participation of women in decision-making at all levels on environmental issues;

12. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to include observer States in the implementation of the present resolution;

13. *Invites* the secretariat of the Convention to report, through the Secretary-General, to the General Assembly at its seventy-first session on the work of the Conference of the Parties;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make provisions for the sessions of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and its subsidiary bodies in his proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018-2019;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-first session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind".

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[14] A/70/230, sect. I.

[15] See FCCC/CP/2014/10/Add.2.

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Seventieth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 23 (a)
Groups of countries in special situations: follow-up to the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries

South Africa:* draft resolution

Follow-up to the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Istanbul Declaration[1] and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020,[2] adopted by the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held in Istanbul, Turkey, from 9 to 13 May 2011, and endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 65/280 of 17 June 2011, in which the Assembly called upon all the relevant stakeholders to commit to implementing the Programme of Action,

Reaffirming the overarching goal of the Istanbul Programme of Action of overcoming the structural challenges faced by the least developed countries in order to eradicate poverty, achieve the internationally agreed development goals and enable graduation from the least developed country category,

Recalling its resolution 69/231 of 19 December 2014 on the follow-up to the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries,

Recalling also its resolution 67/221 of 21 December 2012 on the smooth transition for countries graduating from the list of least developed countries,

Recalling further Economic and Social Council resolution 2015/35 of 23 July 2015 on the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020,

* On behalf of States Members of the United Nations that are members of the G77 and China.

[1] *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9-13 May 2011* (A/CONF.219/7), chap. I.

[2] Ibid., chap. II.

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1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020[3] and on the implementation, effectiveness and added value of smooth transition measures;[4]

2. *Calls upon* the least developed countries, their development partners, the United Nations system and all other actors to further intensify their efforts to fully and effectively implement, in a coordinated, coherent and expeditious manner, the commitments that have been made in the Istanbul Programme of Action in its eight priority areas, namely (a) productive capacity, (b) agriculture, food security and rural development, (c) trade, (d) commodities, (e) human and social development, (f) multiple crises and other emerging challenges, (g) mobilizing financial resources for development and capacity-building, and (h) good governance at all levels;

3. *Underscores* that the ownership, leadership and primary responsibility for development in the least developed countries rests with themselves, and calls upon the international community to assist them in building their capacities and to strengthen the global partnership for development, including through increased resources, for the least developed countries in all priority areas of the Istanbul Programme of Action in order to ensure the timely, effective and full implementation of the Programme of Action during the remainder of the Decade;

4. *Reaffirms* its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", recognizing that it builds on the Millennium Development Goals and seeks to complete their unfinished business, and stressing the importance of the implementation of this new ambitious Agenda, which has poverty eradication at its core and aims at promoting the social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainable development;

5. *Reaffirms also* its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it and helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions within the framework of a revitalized Global Partnership for Sustainable Development;

6. *Notes with appreciation* that these new development agendas incorporate a number of key development challenges and priorities of the least developed countries;

7. *Underlines* that the special needs and development priorities of the least developed countries as contained in the Istanbul Programme of Action, such as productive capacity-building, including through rapid development of infrastructure and energy, should be given appropriate consideration in relation to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

8. *Underlines* the need for strong synergy and coherence regarding the implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, calls upon the international community, as a matter of priority, to provide increased and

[3] A/70/83-E/2015/75.
[4] A/70/292.

strengthened support to the least developed countries to facilitate the coordinated implementation and coherent follow-up to and monitoring of the Programme of Action, the 2030 Agenda and the Action Agenda in least developed countries, and in this regard invites the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States to assist in mobilizing increased international support and resources from all sources for the least developed countries, and underlines that the Office of the High Representative should be strengthened to provide this assistance;

9. *Recalls* the decision contained in its resolution 69/231 on the modalities of the comprehensive high-level midterm review of the implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action, and decides that the conference will be held in Antalya, Turkey, from ... to ... June 2016;

10. *Decides* that the preparatory meeting of experts, to be chaired by the co-facilitators, will be held from 28 to 31 March 2016 and will consider the draft outcome document;

11. *Emphasizes* that the midterm review should provide strong impetus to the realization of the existing initiatives and commitments and launch concrete and specific global initiatives and measures, building on the decisions contained in the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030,[5] the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the outcome of the twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change;

12. *Reaffirms* the critical importance of the full and effective participation of the least developed countries in the comprehensive high-level midterm review, stresses that adequate resources should be provided, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to mobilize extrabudgetary resources in order to cover the cost of the participation of at least three government representatives from each least developed country in the review conference and at least two in the preparatory meeting of experts;

13. *Reiterates its call upon* all Member States and invites the organizations of the United Nations system and other international and regional financial institutions to actively participate in the midterm review, at the highest possible level, and in its preparatory processes;

14. *Underlines* the need to reduce the vulnerability of the least developed countries to economic, natural and environmental shocks and disasters, as well as climate change, and to enhance their ability to meet these and other challenges by strengthening their resilience, and in this regard decides to take the necessary measures to build the resilience of the least developed countries to withstand economic shocks and to mitigate their adverse effects, to withstand and overcome the adverse effects of climate change, enhance sustainable growth and protect biodiversity, and to withstand natural hazards in order to reduce the risk of disasters, as agreed upon in the Istanbul Programme of Action;

15. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the feasibility study for a United Nations technology bank for the least developed countries,[6] appreciates

[5] Resolution 69/283, annex II.

[6] A/70/408.

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the work done by the High-level Panel on the Technology Bank, to which the Office of the High Representative provided secretariat support, requests the Secretary-General to take the measures necessary to fully operationalize the technology bank for the least developed countries by 2017, and seeks to promote synergies with the technology facilitation mechanism;

16. *Reiterates* its recommendation that the consultative mechanism specified in its resolution 59/209 of 20 December 2004 be established by the graduating country, in cooperation with its bilateral and multilateral development and trading partners, to facilitate the preparation of the transition strategy and the identification of the associated actions and the negotiation of their duration and phasing out for a period appropriate to the development situation of the country, and that it be integrated with other relevant consultative processes and initiatives between the graduating country and its development partners;

17. *Invites* development partners to make available timely information about least developed country-specific support measures and related smooth transition measures in the areas of financial support, technical assistance and trade-related measures, including their time frames, characteristics and modalities;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session a progress report on the implementation, the effectiveness and the added value of smooth transition measures, including initiatives taken by the United Nations system to support countries during their graduation from the least developed country category;

19. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-first session a report on the outcome of the comprehensive high-level midterm review and the implementation of the present resolution.

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General Assembly

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Seventieth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 20 (h)
Sustainable development: United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development

South Africa:* draft resolution

United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (2005-2014)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 69/211 of 19 December 2014 and other previous resolutions on the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", recognizing that it builds on the Millennium Development Goals and seeks to complete their unfinished business, and stressing the importance of the implementation of this new ambitious Agenda, which has poverty eradication at its core and aims at promoting the social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainable development,

Recalling that this new Agenda, inter alia, acknowledges equitable and universal access to quality education at all levels and lifelong learning opportunities for all and that it also recognizes the role of education for sustainable development for the acquisition by all learners of the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development,

Reaffirming its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and which supports and complements it and helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions within the framework of a revitalized Global Partnership for Sustainable Development,

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

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Reaffirming also that the Addis Ababa Action Agenda recognizes the importance for achieving sustainable development of delivering quality education to all girls and boys, which will require reaching children living in extreme poverty, children with disabilities, migrant and refugee children, and those in conflict and post-conflict situations, and providing safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environments for all, and that it also recognizes the importance of scaling up investments and international cooperation to allow all children to complete free, equitable, inclusive and quality early childhood, primary and secondary education, including through scaling up and strengthening initiatives, such as the Global Partnership for Education, including by upgrading education facilities that are child, disability and gender sensitive and increasing the percentage of qualified teachers in developing countries, including through international cooperation, especially in least developed countries and small island developing States,

Acknowledging the importance of scaling up investment in science, technology, engineering and mathematics education and enhancing technical, vocational and tertiary education and training, and of ensuring equal access for women and girls to such education and training and encouraging their participation therein,

Acknowledging also the importance of education for achieving sustainable development, including in the context of the Millennium Development Goals, Agenda 21,[1] the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[2] the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, the World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development, organized by the Government of Japan and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, held in Aichi-Nagoya, Japan, from 10 to 12 November 2014, the World Education Forum 2015, held in Incheon, Republic of Korea, from 19 to 22 May 2015, and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Noting the key findings contained in the review of the implementation of the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development, 2005-2014 prepared by the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,[3] the challenges outlined therein, particularly the full implementation of education for sustainable development across education systems, which requires financial resources and increased capacity-building for policymakers, education leaders and practitioners, and the recommendations for the realization of the full potential of the Decade,

Noting also the Global Action Programme on Education for Sustainable Development as follow-up to the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development after 2014[4] and the Aichi-Nagoya Declaration on

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[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

[2] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[3] A/70/228.

[4] See A/69/76.

Education for Sustainable Development[5] adopted at the World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development, and the Incheon Declaration[6] of the World Education Forum 2015,

Welcoming the growing recognition of education for sustainable development as an integral and transformative element of inclusive quality education and lifelong learning, and recognizing the important role of education as a main driver of development and in the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals,

Recognizing the importance of promoting a holistic approach to education for sustainable development, the need to reinforce the interdisciplinary linkages of the three pillars of sustainable development, including different branches of knowledge, and the role of education for sustainable development in promoting and enhancing public awareness of issues, inter alia, the eradication of poverty, sustainable patterns of consumption and production, human rights, gender equality and women's empowerment, a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and cultural diversity, combating climate change and building disaster resilient communities,

Reaffirming that the Sustainable Development Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development take into account different national realities, capacities and levels of development and respect national policies and priorities, and that the follow-up and review processes of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda will, inter alia, build on existing platforms and processes, where these exist, avoid duplication and respond to national circumstances, capacities, needs and priorities,

Stressing the importance of inclusivity within the United Nations development system and that observer States be taken into account in the implementation of the present resolution,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on the review of the implementation of the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development, 2005-2014,[3] including the recommendations for future action on education for sustainable development;

2. *Reaffirms* education for sustainable development as a vital means of implementation for sustainable development, and welcomes the increasing international recognition of education for sustainable development as an integral and transformative element of inclusive quality education and lifelong learning;

3. *Encourages* Governments and other concerned stakeholders to scale up education for sustainable development through implementation of the Global Action Programme on Education for Sustainable Development as follow-up to the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development after 2014[4] and the related goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda;

4. *Invites* Governments to increase efforts to systemically integrate and institutionalize education for sustainable development in the education sector and other relevant sectors, in particular through the provision of financial resources, the inclusion of education for sustainable development in relevant policies and the

[5] A/70/228, annex.

[6] *Incheon Declaration: Education 2030: Towards inclusive and equitable quality education and lifelong learning for all (2015)*, available at http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0023/002338/233813M.pdf.

development of the capacities of policymakers, institutional leaders and educators, as well as through the strengthening of research, innovation and monitoring and evaluation on education for sustainable development in order to support the scaling up of good practices;

5. *Calls on* the international community to commit to the provision of inclusive and equitable quality education for all at all levels — early childhood, primary, secondary and tertiary, including technical and vocational training — so that all people may have access to lifelong learning opportunities that help them to acquire the knowledge and skills needed to exploit opportunities to participate fully in society and contribute to sustainable development;

6. *Encourages* all Member States, observer States, intergovernmental bodies, organizations of the United Nations system, relevant non-governmental organizations and all other relevant stakeholders to enhance international cooperation, including by ensuring the necessary means of implementation, in supporting the efforts of developing countries towards the realization of the full potential of education for sustainable development;

7. *Decides* to give appropriate consideration to education for sustainable development in the follow-up and review framework of the 2030 Agenda, working in a coherent and integrated manner with the high-level political forum on sustainable development, the Economic and Social Council and all other relevant organs and forums, in particular the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in accordance with existing mandates, reflecting the integrated nature of the goals and targets, as well as the interlinkages among them, and the principles and provisions established under the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda;

8. *Invites* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, as the lead agency for education for sustainable development, to continue to provide coordination for the implementation of the Global Action Programme on Education for Sustainable Development and the related goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda, in cooperation with Governments, United Nations organizations, funds and programmes, non-governmental organizations and other stakeholders, and advocates the importance of ensuring the provision of adequate resources for education for sustainable development;

9. *Invites* the organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to continue to provide support and assist Member States, upon their request, in developing their national capacities to promote education for sustainable development, including through knowledge sharing and standard setting, the exchange of best practices, data collection, research and study;

10. *Invites* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and other relevant United Nations bodies to continue to assess, in consultation with Member States, progress towards the achievement of the education-related goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda, taking into account their integrated and indivisible nature;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that United Nations country teams continue to further integrate and mainstream education into their programming exercises, in particular United Nations Development Assistance

Frameworks, in consultation with relevant national authorities, while respecting national policies and priorities, when assisting countries in the pursuit of their development objectives;

12. *Encourages* all Member States, observer States, relevant intergovernmental bodies, organizations of the United Nations system, relevant non-governmental organizations and all other relevant stakeholders to give due consideration to the contribution of education to the achievement of sustainable development in the formulation of national, regional and international development policies and international cooperation instruments;

13. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to include observer States in the implementation of the present resolution;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in his annual progress report on the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals to its seventy-second session, in consultation with Member States, relevant United Nations funds and programmes and the specialized agencies of the United Nations, in particular the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, an evaluation of the implementation of the Global Action Programme and the related goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the Global Action Programme on Education for Sustainable Development and the related goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development".

United Nations A/C.2/70/L.21

General Assembly

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Seventieth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 64
Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources

South Africa:* draft resolution

Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 69/241 of 19 December 2014, and taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 2015/17 of 20 July 2015,

Recalling also its resolutions 58/292 of 6 May 2004 and 59/251 of 22 December 2004,

Reaffirming the principle of the permanent sovereignty of peoples under foreign occupation over their natural resources,

Guided by the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, affirming the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, and recalling relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 465 (1980) of 1 March 1980 and 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981,

Recalling its resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970,

Reaffirming the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[1] to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967,

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

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Recalling, in this regard, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[2] and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[2] and affirming that these human rights instruments must be respected in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, as well as in the occupied Syrian Golan,

Recalling also the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the legal consequences of the construction of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory,[3] and recalling further its resolutions ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004 and ES-10/17 of 15 December 2006,

Recalling further its resolution 67/19 of 29 November 2012,

Taking note of the accession by Palestine to several human rights treaties and the core humanitarian law treaties, as well as to other international treaties,

Expressing its concern about the exploitation by Israel, the occupying Power, of the natural resources of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967,

Expressing its grave concern about the extensive destruction by Israel, the occupying Power, of agricultural land and orchards in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including the uprooting of a vast number of fruit-bearing trees and the destruction of farms and greenhouses, and the grave environmental and economic impact in this regard,

Expressing its grave concern also about the widespread destruction caused by Israel, the occupying Power, to vital infrastructure, including water pipelines, sewage networks and electricity networks, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, in particular in the Gaza Strip during the military operations of July and August 2014, which, inter alia, has polluted the environment and negatively affects the functioning of water and sanitation systems and the water supply and other natural resources of the Palestinian people, and stressing the urgency of the reconstruction and development of water and other vital civilian infrastructure, including the project for the desalination facility for the Gaza Strip,

Expressing its grave concern further about the negative impact on the environment and on reconstruction and development efforts of the thousands of items of unexploded ordnance that remain in the Gaza Strip as a result of the conflict in July and August 2014,

Recalling the 2009 report by the United Nations Environment Programme regarding the grave environmental situation in the Gaza Strip, and the 2012 report, "Gaza in 2020: A liveable place?", by the United Nations country team in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, and stressing the need for follow-up to the recommendations contained therein,

Deploring the detrimental impact of the Israeli settlements on Palestinian and other Arab natural resources, especially as a result of the confiscation of land and the forced diversion of water resources, including the destruction of orchards and crops and the seizure of water wells by Israeli settlers, and of the dire socioeconomic consequences in this regard,

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[2] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[3] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1.

Recalling the report of the independent international fact-finding mission to investigate the implications of the Israeli settlements on the civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights of the Palestinian people throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,[4]

Aware of the detrimental impact on Palestinian natural resources being caused by the unlawful construction of the wall by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, and of its grave effect as well on the economic and social conditions of the Palestinian people,

Stressing the urgency of achieving without delay an end to the Israeli occupation that began in 1967 and a just, lasting and comprehensive peace settlement on all tracks, on the basis of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967), 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973, 425 (1978) of 19 March 1978 and 1397 (2002) of 12 March 2002, the principle of land for peace, the Arab Peace Initiative[5] and the Quartet performance-based road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict,[6] as endorsed by the Security Council in its resolution 1515 (2003) of 19 November 2003 and supported by the Council in its resolution 1850 (2008) of 16 December 2008,

Stressing also, in this regard, the need for respect for the obligation upon Israel under the road map to freeze settlement activity, including so-called "natural growth", and to dismantle all settlement outposts erected since March 2001,

Stressing further the need for respect and preservation of the territorial unity, contiguity and integrity of all of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

Recalling the need to end all acts of violence, including acts of terror, provocation, incitement and destruction,

Taking note of the report prepared by the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia on the economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan, as transmitted by the Secretary-General,[7]

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people and of the population of the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources, including land, water and energy resources;

2. *Demands* that Israel, the occupying Power, cease the exploitation, damage, cause of loss or depletion and endangerment of the natural resources in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan;

3. *Recognizes* the right of the Palestinian people to claim restitution as a result of any exploitation, damage, loss or depletion or endangerment of their natural resources resulting from illegal measures taken by Israel, the occupying Power, and Israeli settlers in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East

[4] A/HRC/22/63.
[5] A/56/1026-S/2002/932, annex II, resolution 14/221.
[6] S/2003/529, annex.
[7] A/70/82-E/2015/13.

Jerusalem, and expresses the hope that this issue will be dealt with within the framework of the final status negotiations between the Palestinian and Israeli sides;

4. *Stresses* that the wall and settlements being constructed by Israel in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, are contrary to international law and are seriously depriving the Palestinian people of their natural resources, and calls in this regard for full compliance with the legal obligations affirmed in the 9 July 2004 advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice[3] and in relevant United Nations resolutions, including General Assembly resolution ES-10/15;

5. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to comply strictly with its obligations under international law, including international humanitarian law, and to cease immediately and completely all policies and measures aimed at the alteration of the character and status of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem;

6. *Also calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to bring a halt to all actions, including those perpetrated by Israeli settlers, harming the environment, including the dumping of all kinds of waste materials, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan, which gravely threaten their natural resources, namely water and land resources, and which pose an environmental, sanitation and health threat to the civilian populations;

7. *Calls upon* Israel to cease its destruction of vital infrastructure, including water pipelines, sewage networks and electricity networks, which, inter alia, has a negative impact on the natural resources of the Palestinian people, stresses the urgent need to advance reconstruction and development projects in this regard, including in the Gaza Strip, and calls for support for the necessary efforts in this regard, in line with the commitments made at, inter alia, the Cairo International Conference on Palestine: Reconstructing Gaza, held on 12 October 2014;

8. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to remove all obstacles to the implementation of critical environmental projects, including sewage treatment plants in the Gaza Strip and the reconstruction and development of water infrastructure, including the project for the desalination facility for the Gaza Strip;

9. *Calls for* the immediate and safe removal of all unexploded ordnance in the Gaza Strip and for support for the efforts of the United Nations Mine Action Service in this regard, and welcomes the efforts exerted by the Service to date;

10. *Encourages* all States and international organizations to continue to actively pursue policies to ensure respect for their obligations under international law with regard to all illegal Israeli practices and measures in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, particularly Israeli settlement activities and the exploitation of natural resources;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-first session on the implementation of the present resolution, including with regard to the cumulative impact of the exploitation, damage and depletion by Israel of natural resources in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-first session the item entitled "Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources".

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General Assembly

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Seventieth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 20
Sustainable development

South Africa:* draft resolution

Combating sand and dust storms

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", recognizing that it builds on the Millennium Development Goals and seeks to complete their unfinished business, and stressing the importance of the implementation of this new ambitious Agenda, which has poverty eradication at its core and aims at promoting the social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainable development,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it and helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions within the framework of a revitalized Global Partnership for Sustainable Development,

Recalling its resolution 66/288 of 27 July 2012, which endorsed the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development entitled, "The future we want",

Recalling also its resolution 68/213 of 20 December 2013 on the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,

Welcoming the initiative of the United Nations Environment Programme for a regional programme to combat sand and dust storms, including the ministerial meeting held in Nairobi on 21 February 2013,

Acknowledging that, based on the well-defined notion of hazards in the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, addressing the hazards posed by dust and sand storms contributes critically towards the achievement of the Framework's goals, targets and priorities of actions,

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

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Acknowledging also that dust and sand storms pose a severe impediment to the sustainable development of affected developing countries and the well-being of their peoples, and recognizing the fact that dust and sand storms in the last few years have inflicted substantial socioeconomic damage on the inhabitants of the world's arid, semi-arid and dry subhumid areas, especially in Africa and Asia,

Emphasizing the relevance of the efforts and cooperation of Member States and observer States at the regional and international levels to control and reduce the negative impacts of dust and sand storms on human settlements in vulnerable regions, welcoming the initiative of the Islamic Republic of Iran in hosting a regional meeting of environment ministers in Tehran on 29 September 2010, and stressing the need for strong political commitment and willingness, including through the holding of high-level meetings at the regional and international levels with the active participation of all countries, especially developed countries,

Stressing the need for cooperation at the global and regional levels with a view to preventing and managing dust and sand storms through the development of early warning systems and the sharing of climate and weather information to forecast dust storms and sandstorms, and affirming that resilient action to combat sand and dust storms depends on the provision of financial support and the transfer of technology and know-how from developed countries to developing countries, recognizing the importance of poverty eradication and the need for a better understanding of the severe multidimensional impacts of dust and sand storms, including the deterioration of the health, well-being, and livelihood of people, increased desertification and land degradation, deforestation, loss of biodiversity and land productivity, and their impact on sustainable economic growth,

Stressing the importance of inclusiveness within the United Nations development system and that observer States be taken into account in the implementation of the present resolution,

1. *Recognizes* that dust and sand storms and their root causes pose a great challenge to the sustainable development of affected countries and regions, and underscores the need to treat them with a sense of urgency within the United Nations system and to promptly undertake measures to address these challenges;

2. *Emphasizes* the need to strengthen the leadership role of the United Nations system, supported by related regional, subregional and interregional organizations, in promoting international cooperation to mitigate and contain this phenomenon in the affected developing countries, including through capacity-building measures, the implementation of regional and subregional projects, the sharing of information, best practices and experiences, the boosting of technical cooperation, the mobilization of necessary financial resources and the setting up of institutions, such as expert committee working groups, to formulate action plans and programmes to facilitate and enhance such cooperation;

3. *Requests* all relevant bodies, agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, including the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Development Programme, the World Meteorological Organization, the World Health Organization and all other related organizations, to address this problem and contribute to the enhancement of capacity-building in the affected countries to combat sand and dust storms in accordance with national policies and priorities;

4. *Invites* States as well as the United Nations development system and related international organizations to actively cooperate with developing countries in implementing the goals, targets and priorities for action contained in the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 in order to address the multidimensional hazards, including dust and sand storms, which are considered to be critical impediments to sustainable development and the well-being of the people of the world in its entirety;

5. *Reiterates* the need for the United Nations funds, programmes and organs, as well as regional organizations and commissions, to promote cooperation and mobilize technical expertise and financial resources to assist affected countries to address the impacts of sand and dust storms as well as their root causes;

6. *Encourages* regional, subregional and interregional organizations and processes to share best practices, experiences and technical expertise in combating dust and sand storms and to formulate proposals to facilitate regional cooperation on this matter, with the assistance of their member countries;

7. *Invites* all affected Member States as well as relevant organizations of the United Nations system, regional organizations and other relevant stakeholders to endeavour to meet, in an appropriate manner, the objectives set out in the present resolution;

8. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to include observer States in the implementation of the present resolution;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to present a report to the General Assembly at its seventy-first session containing information and analysis of trends in the occurrence of dust storms, particularly in West Asia.

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Second Committee
Agenda item 17
Information and communications technologies for development

South Africa:* draft resolution

Information and communications technologies for development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 56/183 of 21 December 2001, 57/238 of 20 December 2002, 57/270 B of 23 June 2003, 59/220 of 22 December 2004, 60/252 of 27 March 2006, 62/182 of 19 December 2007, 63/202 of 19 December 2008, 64/187 of 21 December 2009, 65/141 of 20 December 2010, 66/184 of 22 December 2011, 67/195 of 21 December 2012, 68/198 of 20 December 2013 and 69/204 of 19 December 2014,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolutions 2006/46 of 28 July 2006, 2008/3 of 18 July 2008, 2009/7 of 24 July 2009, 2010/2 of 19 July 2010, 2011/16 of 26 July 2011, 2012/5 of 24 July 2012, 2013/9 of 22 July 2013 and 2014/27 of 16 July 2014 and taking note of Council resolution 2015/26 of 22 July 2015 on the assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", recognizing that it builds on the Millennium Development Goals and seeks to complete their unfinished business, and stressing the importance of implementation of this new ambitious Agenda, which has poverty eradication at its core and aims at promoting the social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainable development,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it and helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions within the framework of a revitalized Global Partnership for Sustainable Development,

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

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Recalling further its resolution 68/302 of 31 July 2014 on the modalities for the overall review by the General Assembly of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, and welcoming the high-level meeting of the General Assembly for the overall review to be held in December 2015,

Recalling the Declaration of Principles and the Plan of Action adopted by the World Summit on the Information Society at its first phase, held in Geneva from 10 to 12 December 2003,[1] and endorsed by the General Assembly,[2] and the Tunis Commitment and the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society adopted by the Summit at its second phase, held in Tunis from 16 to 18 November 2005,[3] and endorsed by the Assembly,[4]

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional and international levels,[5]

Noting the holding of the World Summit on the Information Society Forum, jointly organized annually by the International Telecommunication Union, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the United Nations Development Programme,

Noting also the establishment of the Broadband Commission for Digital Development, at the invitation of the Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union and the Director General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, taking note of the "Broadband targets for 2015", which sets targets for making broadband policy universal and for increasing affordability and uptake in support of internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, taking note also of the report of the Broadband Commission entitled *The State of Broadband 2014: Broadband for All*, which provides a country-by-country evaluation of those targets and the state of broadband deployment worldwide, as well as the 2015 report of the Broadband Commission entitled "Combating Online Violence against Women and Girls: A Worldwide Wake-up Call", which reveals that a growing number of women online have been exposed to some form of cyberviolence, and urges Governments and industry to work effectively together to better protect the growing number of women and girls who are victims of online threats and harassment,

Noting further the holding of the eighteenth session of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development in Geneva from 4 to 8 May 2015, and the substantive discussion on the 10-year review of progress made in the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society that took place during that session,

Noting the summary of the substantive discussion on the 10-year review conducted by the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, together with the interventions made in that regard and the report prepared by the

[1] See A/C.2/59/3, annex.
[2] See resolution 59/220.
[3] See A/60/687.
[4] See resolution 60/252.
[5] A/70/63-E/2015/10.

secretariat of the Commission, entitled *Implementing WSIS Outcomes: A Ten-year Review*, which have been forwarded to the preparatory process for the high-level meeting of the General Assembly as input for the deliberations,

Noting also the references to information and communications technologies contained in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda,

Recognizing the fact that information and communications technologies are critical enablers of economic development and investment, with consequential benefits for employment and social welfare, and that the increasing pervasiveness of information and communications technologies within society has had profound impacts on the ways in which Governments deliver services, businesses relate to consumers and citizens participate in public and private life,

Reaffirming that the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society related to Internet governance, namely, the process towards enhanced cooperation and the convening of the Internet Governance Forum, are to be pursued by the Secretary-General through two distinct processes, and recognizing that the two processes may be complementary,

Welcoming the efforts undertaken by the host countries in organizing the meetings of the Internet Governance Forum, held in Athens in 2006, in Rio de Janeiro in 2007, in Hyderabad, India, in 2008, in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, in 2009, in Vilnius in 2010, in Nairobi in 2011, in Baku in 2012, in Bali, Indonesia, in 2013, in Istanbul, Turkey, in 2014, and in Joao Pessoa, Brazil, from 10 to 13 November 2015,

Stressing the importance of inclusiveness within the United Nations development system and that observer States be taken into account in the implementation of the present resolution,

1. *Recognizes* that information and communications technologies have the potential to provide new solutions to development challenges, particularly in the context of globalization, and can foster sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth and sustainable development, competitiveness, access to information and knowledge, poverty eradication and social inclusion that will help to expedite the integration of all countries, especially developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, into the global economy;

2. *Encourages* strengthened and continuing cooperation between and among stakeholders, taking into account their respective roles and mandates, to ensure the effective implementation of the outcomes of the Geneva[1] and Tunis[3] phases of the World Summit on the Information Society;

3. *Notes* the progress that has been made by United Nations entities in cooperation with national Governments, regional commissions and other relevant stakeholders, including non-governmental organizations and the private sector, in the implementation of the action lines contained in the outcome documents of the World Summit on the Information Society, and encourages the use of those action lines for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

4. *Recognizes* that the progress achieved in the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society has been uneven and that

serious challenges still remain in place around the world, and in this regard expresses concern about the critical digital and broadband divides between developed and developing countries, which need to be addressed through enhanced affordability, education, capacity-building, technology transfer, appropriate financing, international cooperation and an enabling policy environment at all levels;

5. *Notes* the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional level, facilitated by the regional commissions, as observed in the report of the Secretary-General on progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit at the regional and international levels;[5]

6. *Encourages* the United Nations funds and programmes and the specialized agencies, within their respective mandates and strategic plans, to contribute to the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, and emphasizes the importance of allocating adequate resources in this regard;

7. *Welcomes with appreciation* the offer made by Mexico to host the meeting of the Internet Governance Forum in 2016, and recommends that the extension of the mandate of the Forum be considered in the context of the overall review in 2015;

8. *Takes note* of the report of the Working Group on Improvements to the Internet Governance Forum,[6] and requests the Secretary-General to continue to submit, as part of his annual reporting on the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, information on the progress made in the implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Working Group, particularly on enhancing the participation of developing countries;

9. *Stresses* the need for the enhanced participation of all developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, in all meetings of the Internet Governance Forum, and in this regard invites Member States, as well as other relevant stakeholders, to support the participation of Governments and all other stakeholders from developing countries in the Forum itself, as well as in the preparatory meetings;

10. *Recognizes* the need to harness the potential of information and communications technologies as critical enablers of sustainable development and to overcome the digital divide, and stresses that capacity-building for the productive use of such technologies should be given due consideration in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda;

11. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to include observer States in the implementation of the present resolution;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-first session, through the Commission on Science and Technology for Development and the Economic and Social Council, a report on the status of the

[5] A/67/65-E/2012/48 and Corr.1.

implementation of and follow-up to its resolution 69/204, taking into account the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, the review process of the World Summit on the Information Society and other relevant processes, as part of his annual reporting on the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the Summit at the regional and international levels;

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-first session the item entitled "Information and communications technologies for development".

United Nations A/C.2/70/L.24

General Assembly

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Seventieth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 27
Towards global partnerships

Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: draft resolution

Towards global partnerships: a principle-based approach to enhanced cooperation between the United Nations and all relevant partners

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/215 of 21 December 2000, 56/76 of 11 December 2001, 58/129 of 19 December 2003, 60/215 of 22 December 2005, 62/211 of 19 December 2007, 64/223 of 21 December 2009, 66/223 of 22 December 2011 and 68/234 of 20 December 2013,

Welcoming the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[1] at the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, held in New York from 25 to 27 September 2015,

Recalling the objectives formulated in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, of which the Addis Ababa Action Agenda[2] is an integral part, particularly in regard to developing partnerships through the provision of greater opportunities to the private sector, non-governmental organizations and civil society in general so as to enable them to contribute to the realization of the goals and programmes of the Organization, in particular in the pursuit of sustainable development and the eradication of poverty,

Underlining the fact that cooperation between the United Nations and all relevant partners, including the private sector, shall serve the purposes and

[1] Resolution 70/1.

[2] The Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development (Addis Ababa Action Agenda), adopted by the General Assembly on 27 July 2015 (resolution 69/313, annex).

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principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations and shall be undertaken in a manner that maintains and promotes the integrity, impartiality and independence of the Organization,

Welcoming the contribution of all relevant partners, including the private sector, non-governmental organizations, philanthropic organizations, academia and civil society, which respect and support, as appropriate, the core values and principles of the United Nations, to the implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations conferences and summits and their reviews in the economic, social, environmental and related fields, as well as the realization of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals,

Emphasizing that cooperation between the United Nations and all relevant partners, in particular the private sector, can contribute to addressing the obstacles confronted by developing countries through responsible business practices, such as respecting the principles of the United Nations Global Compact and taking action, including by mobilizing the resources needed to finance their sustainable development, and to realizing the internationally agreed development goals in developing countries,

Welcoming the efforts and encouraging further efforts by all relevant partners, including the private sector, to engage as reliable and consistent partners in the development process and to take into account not only the economic and financial but also the developmental, social, human rights, gender and environmental implications of their undertakings, and, in general, towards implementing corporate social and environmental responsibility, that is, bringing such values and responsibilities to bear on their conduct and policies premised on profit incentives, in conformity with national laws and regulations,

Recalling that multi-stakeholder partnerships and the resources, knowledge and ingenuity of the private sector, civil society, the scientific community, academia, philanthropy and foundations, parliaments, local authorities, volunteers and other stakeholders will be important to mobilize and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, complement the efforts of Governments and support the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular in developing countries,

Welcoming the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: Implementing the United Nations "Protect, Respect and Remedy" Framework[3] with the objective of enhancing standards and practices with regard to business and human rights, and recalling that the Guidelines on a Principle-based Approach to the Cooperation between the United Nations and the Business Sector were updated to ensure their full alignment with the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights,

Recalling that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development acknowledges the roles and contributions of civil society, the scientific and technological community and non-governmental organizations, as well as other relevant international organizations, including international financial institutions and multilateral development banks, in advancing sustainable development,

[3] A/HRC/17/31, annex.

Recalling also that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development also acknowledges that the implementation of sustainable development will depend on the active engagement of both the public and private sectors, and recognizing that the active participation of the private sector can contribute to the achievement of sustainable development,

Recalling further that the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development supported national regulatory and policy frameworks that enable business and industry to advance sustainable development initiatives, including the important tool of public-private partnerships,

Recognizing the contributions of all relevant partners, including the private sector, in fostering stability and supporting recovery by creating job opportunities, advancing economic development, as well as infrastructure development, and, as appropriate, contributing to trust, reconciliation and security,

Noting that the financial and economic crisis, inter alia, has demonstrated the need for values and principles in business, including for sustainable business practices, social protection floors and the promotion of full and productive employment and decent work for all,

Reaffirming the principles of sustainable development, and underlining the global consensus reached on the key values and principles that will promote sustainable, fair, equitable and sustained economic development, and that corporate social and environmental responsibility are important elements of that consensus,

Inviting the private sector to strengthen its involvement in the fight against climate change in the lead-up to the twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, to be held in Paris from 30 November to 11 December 2015, and taking note with appreciation of its efforts so far,

Recognizing that a socially responsible private sector can contribute to the promotion of children's rights and education through relevant initiatives such as the Children's Rights and Business Principles and the Framework for Business Engagement in Education,

Recognizing also the unique position of the United Nations as a builder of bridges among Member States and all stakeholders, and the progress achieved in the work of the United Nations on partnerships, notably in the framework of various United Nations organizations, agencies, funds, programmes, task forces, commissions and initiatives, and noting the establishment of partnerships at the field level entered into by various United Nations agencies, non-public partners and Member States, as well as multi-stakeholder partnerships,

Recalling that the high-level political forum on sustainable development will have a central role in overseeing follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level,

Recognizing the vital role that the United Nations Global Compact Office continues to play with regard to strengthening the capacity of the United Nations to partner strategically with the private sector, in accordance with its mandate from the General Assembly, to advance United Nations values and responsible business practices within the United Nations system and among the global business community,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on enhanced cooperation between the United Nations and all relevant partners, in particular the private sector;[4]

2. *Stresses* that partnerships are voluntary and collaborative relationships between various parties, both public and non-public, in which all participants agree to work together to achieve a common purpose or undertake a specific task and, as mutually agreed, to share risks and responsibilities, resources and benefits;

3. *Also stresses* the importance of the contribution of voluntary partnerships to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, while reiterating that they are a complement to, but not intended to substitute for, the commitment made by Governments with a view to achieving those Goals;

4. *Further stresses* that partnerships should be consistent with national laws and national development strategies and plans, as well as the priorities of countries where they are implemented, bearing in mind the relevant guidance provided by Governments;

5. *Emphasizes* the vital role played by Governments in promoting responsible business practices, including providing and ensuring enforcement of the necessary legal and regulatory frameworks in accordance with national legislation and development priorities, and invites them to continue to provide support to United Nations efforts to engage with the private sector, as appropriate;

6. *Recognizes* the vital role that the private sector plays in development, including through engaging in various partnership models and by generating decent employment and investment, giving access to and developing new technologies, offering technical vocational training activities and stimulating sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth, with due consideration for non-discrimination, gender equality and women's empowerment, while bearing in mind the need to ensure that their activities conform fully with the principle of national ownership of development strategies;

7. *Also recognizes* the importance of the various contributions of all relevant stakeholders, including the private sector, to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[1] and in this regard takes note of the important role that the Global Compact Local Networks are playing in securing input from businesses on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and promoting poverty eradication and sustainable development through, inter alia, the exercise of corporate social responsibility;

8. *Welcomes* the intention of the Secretary-General to improve collaboration of the United Nations with all relevant partners, including the private sector, and to strengthen the capacities of the United Nations system, with a view to enhancing the results achieved through partnerships, and acknowledges the importance of continued consultations with Member States;

9. *Also welcomes* the commitment of the Secretary-General to continuing to retain the integrity and unique role of the United Nations Global Compact;

10. *Notes with appreciation* the initiatives of the Secretary-General, including the Sustainable Energy for All initiative, the Every Woman, Every Child

[4] A/70/296.

initiative, the Global Education First Initiative, the Zero Hunger Challenge initiative and the Global Pulse initiative;

11. *Invites* the United Nations system, when considering partnerships, to seek to engage in a more coherent manner with private sector entities, including small and medium-sized enterprises, that support the core values of the United Nations, as reflected in the Charter of the United Nations and other relevant conventions and treaties, and that commit to the principles of the United Nations Global Compact by translating them into operational corporate policies, codes of conduct and management, monitoring and reporting systems;

12. *Encourages* the United Nations system to continue to develop, for those partnerships in which it participates, a common and systemic approach which places greater emphasis on transparency, coherence, impact, accountability and due diligence, without imposing undue rigidity in partnership agreements;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in this regard, in collaboration with funds and programmes, specialized agencies and other relevant United Nations entities and mechanisms, as appropriate, to further continue:

(a) To implement the Guidelines on a Principle-based Approach to the Cooperation between the United Nations and the Business Sector, including from a gender perspective;

(b) To disclose the partners, contributions and matching funds for all relevant partnerships, including at the country level;

(c) To strengthen due diligence measures that can safeguard the reputation of the Organization and ensure confidence-building;

(d) To ensure that these elements are coherently reflected in relevant system-wide reports and can serve as an input to the high-level political forum on sustainable development;

14. *Underlines*, in this context, the importance of integrity measures as taken and advocated by the United Nations Global Compact;

15. *Requests* the United Nations Global Compact to promote the Women's Empowerment Principles and to encourage the Global Compact Local Networks to create awareness of the many ways in which business can promote gender equality in the workplace, marketplace and community;

16. *Acknowledges* the importance of corporate sustainability reporting, encourages companies, where appropriate, especially publicly listed and large companies, to consider integrating sustainability information into their reporting cycle, encourages industry, interested Governments and relevant stakeholders, with the support of the United Nations system, as appropriate, to develop models for best practice and to facilitate action for the integration of sustainability reporting, taking into account experiences from already existing frameworks and paying particular attention to the needs of developing countries, including for capacity-building, and welcomes in this context the collaboration of the United Nations Global Compact with the Global Reporting Initiative and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to promote effective implementation of the Guidelines on a Principle-based Approach to the Cooperation between the United Nations and the Business Sector;

18. *Encourages* the international community to strengthen global partnerships for the integration and implementation in partnerships of the Global Jobs Pact of the International Labour Organization and the call for action on youth employment, in accordance with national plans and priorities;

19. *Stresses* the importance of developing national strategies for the promotion of sustainable and productive entrepreneurial activities through partnerships, and encourages Governments to create a climate that is conducive to increasing the number of women entrepreneurs and the size of their businesses;

20. *Encourages* the private sector and the Global Compact Local Networks to join the United Nations Global Compact "Business for Peace" platform and to seek to maximize the beneficial contributions to peace and development while minimizing the risks of negative impacts on both business and society in conflict-affected countries;

21. *Notes with appreciation* the convening of the annual United Nations Private Sector Forum, which, in 2015, focused on the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals;

22. *Recognizes* the work of the Global Compact Local Networks, as well as the importance of cooperation between the United Nations system at the local level and the Global Compact Local Networks, to support, as appropriate and in a manner complementary to existing networks, the coordination and application of global partnerships locally;

23. *Also recognizes* that the Global Compact Local Networks provide an avenue for diffusing United Nations values and principles and facilitating partnerships with business on a broad scale;

24. *Acknowledges* the establishment of the United Nations private sector focal points network, promoting greater coherence and capacity-building within the Organization on activities involving business and disseminating innovations in engagement across the system, as well as the holding of annual meetings of United Nations system private sector focal points, which remain important forums for the exchange of best practices, lessons learned and innovations in partnerships with the private sector;

25. *Decides* to hold consultations on the methods of work and priorities of the Second Committee during its seventieth session with the aim of better aligning both the Committee's agenda and the corresponding reporting requirements with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and decides to give due consideration to global partnerships in those discussions.

United Nations A/C.2/70/L.25

General Assembly

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Seventieth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 18 (d)
Macroeconomic policy questions: Commodities

South Africa:* draft resolution

Commodities

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 59/224 of 22 December 2004, 61/190 of 20 December 2006, 63/207 of 19 December 2008, 64/192 of 21 December 2009, 66/190 of 22 December 2011 and 68/203 of 20 December 2013 on commodities,

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration adopted by Heads of State and Government on 8 September 2000,[1] the 2005 World Summit Outcome adopted on 16 September 2005[2] and its resolution 60/265 of 30 June 2006 on the follow-up to the development outcome of the 2005 World Summit, including the Millennium Development Goals and the other internationally agreed development goals,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", recognizing that it builds upon the Millennium Development Goals and seeks to complete their unfinished business, and stressing the importance of the implementation of this new ambitious Agenda, which has poverty eradication at its core and aims at promoting the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development,

Recalling that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development acknowledged the importance of adopting measures to ensure the proper functioning of food commodity markets and their derivatives and to facilitate timely access to market information, including on food reserves, in order to help limit extreme food price volatility, and called for supporting domestic technology development, research and innovation in developing countries, including by ensuring a conducive policy environment for, inter alia, industrial diversification and value addition to commodities,

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] Resolution 55/2.

[2] Resolution 60/1.

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Taking note of the ongoing efforts to implement the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020,[3] adopted in May 2011 at the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway,[4] adopted in September 2014 at the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, and the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014-2024,[5] adopted in November 2014 at the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries, and recognizing the need to establish a plan of action for cooperation with middle-income countries,

Recalling the African Union's Agenda 2063, as well as its first 10-year implementation plan, as a strategic framework for ensuring a positive socioeconomic transformation in Africa within the next 50 years, its continental programme embedded in the resolutions of the General Assembly on the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), and regional initiatives,

Taking note of the targets set out in the Declaration of the World Summit on Food Security, held in Rome from 16 to 18 November 2009, which reaffirms the pledge to end hunger and poverty,[6]

Noting the High-level Task Force on the Global Food Security Crisis, established by the Secretary-General in 2008, and his Zero Hunger Challenge initiative, set up in 2012,

Recalling the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development and its outcome document,[7]

Recalling also the International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Monterrey, Mexico, from 18 to 22 March 2002, and the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, held in Doha from 29 November to 2 December 2008,

Reaffirming its resolution 69/313, entitled "Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development", which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and supports, complements and helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions within the framework of a revitalized Global Partnership for Sustainable Development,

Recalling that the Addis Ababa Action Agenda expressed concern about the excessive volatility of commodity prices, including for food and agriculture and its consequences for global food security and improved nutrition outcomes, called for measures to ensure the proper functioning of food commodity markets and their derivatives and for relevant regulatory bodies to adopt measures to facilitate timely, accurate and transparent access to market information in an effort to ensure that commodity markets appropriately reflect underlying demand and supply changes and to help to limit excess volatility of commodity prices, and recognized the importance of an enabling environment at all levels, including enabling regulatory

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[3] *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9-13 May 2011* (A/CONF.219/7), chap. II.

[4] Resolution 69/15, annex.

[5] Resolution 69/137, annex II.

[6] See Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document WSFS 2009/2.

[7] Resolution 63/303, annex.

and governance frameworks, in nurturing science, innovation, the dissemination and transfer of technologies, particularly to micro, small and medium-sized enterprises, as well as industrial diversification and value added to commodities,

Taking note of the outcome of the thirteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development,[8] and of further decisions and agreed conclusions on commodities adopted by the Trade and Development Board and its subsidiary bodies in 2014 and 2015,

Taking note also of the Arusha Declaration and Plan of Action on African Commodities, adopted at the African Union Conference of Ministers of Trade on Commodities, held in Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, from 21 to 23 November 2005, and endorsed by the Executive Council of the African Union at its eighth ordinary session, held in Khartoum from 16 to 21 January 2006,[9]

Recalling the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),[10] and the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, entitled "The future we want",[11]

Taking note with appreciation of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development *Commodities and Development Reports* of 2013 and 2015,

Deeply concerned by the fact that many commodity-dependent developing countries continue to be highly vulnerable to price fluctuations, and recognizing the need to continue efforts to improve the regulation, where appropriate, and the efficiency, responsiveness, functioning and transparency of financial and commodity markets nationally, regionally and internationally in order to address excessive commodity price volatility,

Expressing deep concern about the ongoing adverse impacts, particularly on development, of the world financial and economic crisis, recognizing evidence of an uneven and fragile recovery, cognizant that the global economy, notwithstanding significant efforts that helped to contain tail risks, improve financial market conditions and sustain recovery, still remains in a challenging phase, with downside risks, including high volatility in global markets, high unemployment, particularly among youth, growing indebtedness in some countries and widespread fiscal strains, which pose challenges for global economic recovery and reflect the need for additional progress towards sustaining and rebalancing global demand,

Recognizing the adverse impact of excessive price volatility of commodities, especially on women and girls,

Recognizing also that many developing countries continue to be highly dependent on primary commodities as their principal source of export revenues, employment, income generation and domestic savings and as the driving force of investment, economic growth and social development, including poverty eradication,

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[8] See TD/500/Add.1.

[9] See A/60/693, annex II, decision EX.CL/Dec.253 (VIII).

[10] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[11] Resolution 66/288, annex.

Recognizing further, in this context, that developing countries continue to be highly dependent on primary commodities, and recognizing the challenges and special needs of those countries,

Stressing the critical importance of industrial development for developing countries, as a critical source of economic growth, economic diversification and value addition,

Recognizing that uncertainty in global commodity markets reinforces the need to comprehensively deal with the commodity problematique, inter alia, the demand for commodities, supply capacities, commodity revenues and investments in commodity-dependent economies, while taking due account of the diversity of each country's individual situation and needs and the promotion of their sustainable development, and to strengthen the nexus between, inter alia, trade, food, finance, investment in sustainable agriculture, energy and industrialization,

Welcoming the work on consensus-building on commodity-related issues achieved through meetings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, including the multi-year expert meetings on commodities and development, the Global Commodities Forum and the African Oil, Gas and Mines Trade and Finance Conference and Exhibition,

Expressing deep concern at recent trends in global commodity prices and the impact of excessive commodity price volatility on commodity-dependent developing countries,

Noting the recent and marked reversal in commodity prices and that commodity export economies may need to adjust to a possibly protracted period of lower export and fiscal revenues,

Noting also the volatility and unpredictability of commodity prices, which have threatened, inter alia, the food security of net importers in the recent past, and noting further that the continuation of this long-term uncertainty and volatility, intensified by recent trends in commodity prices, can have an impact on the capacities of all developing countries to continue to implement policies for achieving sustainable development and poverty eradication,

Stressing the importance of policies to address longer-term structural issues of the commodity economy and integrate commodity policies into wider development and poverty eradication strategies at all levels,

Taking note of all relevant voluntary initiatives aimed at improving transparency in commodity markets and mitigating the impact of excessive price volatility,

Underlining the importance of timely, accurate and transparent information in helping to address excessive food price volatility, noting global and regional initiatives, including the Agricultural Market Information System and its Rapid Response Forum, hosted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the joint organization data initiative and other regional data platforms and programmes, and urging the participating international organizations, private sector actors and Governments to ensure the public dissemination of timely and quality food market information products,

Expressing deep concern at the adverse impact of climate change and extreme weather patterns on access to, and the utilization and prices of, agricultural commodities,

Stressing the importance of inclusivity within the United Nations development system, and stressing also that observer States should be taken into account in the implementation of the present resolution,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on world commodity trends and prospects;[12]

2. *Recognizes* the interlinkage between the proper functioning of commodity markets and the capacity of some commodity export economies to capture revenues and mobilize domestic resources to support their sustainable development, mainly through economic growth, industrialization, decent work and market diversification;

3. *Encourages* support for developing countries, according to their national plans and policies, through technical assistance, to increase their capacity in detecting and averting transfer pricing as well as trade mispricing in their commodities sectors, in order to enhance their benefits from those sectors to support sustainable growth and development;

4. *Reiterates* the need for further efforts to address excessive commodity price volatility, in particular by assisting producers, especially small-scale producers, in accordance with national plans and policies, in managing risk;

5. *Calls upon* the international community to support the efforts of commodity-dependent developing countries to address the factors that create structural barriers to international trade and impede, inter alia, diversification, including tariff and non-tariff barriers, limited access to financial services resulting in scarce resources for investing in the commodity sector, weak infrastructure, particularly regarding both the cost and availability of transportation and storage, and lack of skills in producing and marketing alternative products;

6. *Welcomes* the convening of the Tenth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization, to be held in Nairobi from 15 to 18 December 2015, and stresses the need for a balanced, ambitious, comprehensive and development-oriented outcome;

7. *Calls for* a coherent set of policy actions at the national, regional and international levels to address excessive price volatility and support commodity-dependent developing countries in mitigating negative impacts, in particular by facilitating value addition and enhancing their participation in commodity and related product value chains, by supporting large-scale diversification of these economies and by encouraging the use and further development of market-oriented risk management tools, instruments and strategies;

8. *Stresses* the importance of developing and strengthening agricultural policies and strategies that recognize and address women's critical role in food security and improved nutrition outcomes as an integral part of both short- and long-term responses to food insecurity and malnutrition, excessive price volatility and food crises in developing countries;

[12] A/70/184.

9. *Recognizes* the potential for innovation, productivity improvements and the promotion of non-traditional exports in most commodity-dependent developing countries, particularly in Africa, and calls for enhanced support by the international community as well as exchanges of experience in these areas within the framework of South-South economic cooperation;

10. *Underscores* the importance of increased investments in infrastructure as a means of promoting agricultural development and enhancing commodity diversification, including value-added production, and trade, and urges the international community to assist commodity-dependent developing countries to mainstream trade as well as sound investment and financial policies as key elements of development strategies, based on national circumstances and development priorities, and to invest in and support research and development of agriculture productivity;

11. *Recognizes* the endorsement of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security by the Committee on World Food Security in 2012;

12. *Also recognizes* the ongoing inclusive consultative process within the Committee on World Food Security to develop voluntary and non-binding principles for responsible agricultural investments that are intended for all stakeholders that are involved in, benefit from or are affected by these principles;

13. *Reaffirms* the goal of ending hunger, achieving food security, improving nutrition and promoting sustainable agriculture through, inter alia, the twin-track approach enunciated in the Updated Comprehensive Framework for Action produced by the United Nations system High-level Task Force on the Global Food Security Crisis in September 2010;[13]

14. *Stresses* that technical assistance and capacity-building aimed at improving the commodity export competitiveness of producers is particularly important for developing countries, especially in Africa, and invites the donor community to provide the necessary resources for commodity-specific financial and technical assistance, in particular for human and institutional capacity-building, as well as infrastructure development of developing countries, with a view to reducing their institutional bottlenecks and transaction costs and enhancing their commodity trade and development in accordance with national development plans;

15. *Also stresses* that the Aid for Trade initiative should aim to help developing countries, particularly the least developed countries, to build the supply-side capacity and trade-related infrastructure that they need to assist them to implement and benefit from World Trade Organization agreements and, more broadly, to expand their trade;

16. *Recalls* the agreement to keep under regular review, by the Ministerial Conference and appropriate organs of the World Trade Organization, the impact of the results of the Uruguay Round on the least developed countries as well as on the net food-importing developing countries, with a view to fostering positive measures to enable them to achieve their development objectives, and in this regard calls for the implementation of the Marrakesh Ministerial Decision on Measures Concerning

[13] Available from www.un-foodsecurity.org.

the Possible Negative Effects of the Reform Programme on Least Developed and Net Food-Importing Developing Countries;

17. *Encourages* developed countries that have not already done so and developing countries declaring themselves in a position to do so to take steps towards the goal of realizing timely implementation of duty-free and quota-free market access on a lasting basis for all least developed countries, consistent with the Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration adopted by the World Trade Organization in 2005;

18. *Strongly encourages* international financial institutions and development banks to assist developing countries, in particular commodity-dependent developing countries, in managing the effects of excessive price volatility;

19. *Reaffirms* that every State has and shall freely exercise full permanent sovereignty over all its wealth, natural resources and economic activities;

20. *Recognizes* the importance of increasing efficiency, effectiveness and transparency in the management of public and private sector revenues in developed and developing countries derived from all commodities and commodities-related industries, including final processed goods, in support of development;

21. *Also recognizes* the role that the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development has been playing as an institution in looking at the interaction between commodity markets and economic development and in the elaboration of the concept of commodity-dependent developing countries;

22. *Further recognizes* the important contributions of the Common Fund for Commodities and other international commodities organizations, and encourages them, in cooperation with the International Trade Centre, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and other relevant bodies, to strengthen coordination among them and to identify and implement innovative measures to enable the sustainable contribution of the commodity sector to economic development, including ways to reduce vulnerability to volatility in commodities, as well as to enhance activities in developing countries to improve access to markets and the reliability of supply, enhance diversification and the addition of value, improve the competitiveness of commodities, strengthen the market chain, improve market structures, broaden the export base and ensure the effective participation of all stakeholders, on the basis of a shared understanding of the contribution of commodities to sustainable development;

23. *Stresses* that the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and its partners, in the spirit of inter-agency cooperation and multi-stakeholder partnerships and within their respective mandates, should continue to engage actively in collaborative research and analysis of the commodity problematique and related capacity and consensus-building activities, with a view to providing regular analysis and policy advice relevant to the sustainable development of commodity-dependent developing countries, particularly low-income countries;

24. *Emphasizes* the importance of facilitating accession to the World Trade Organization, particularly for commodity-dependent developing countries, on the basis of clear rules and pre-established objective criteria, taking into account their levels of development and priorities;

25. *Underlines* the urgent need for the provision of and access to trade finance to commodity-dependent developing countries, given the tightened access to all types of credit and noting debt sustainability;

26. *Welcomes* the commitment to redouble efforts to substantially reduce illicit financial flows by 2030, with a view to eventually eliminating them, including by combating tax evasion and corruption through strengthened national regulation and increased international cooperation, including the commitment to reduce opportunities for tax avoidance, to consider inserting anti-abuse clauses in all tax treaties and to enhance disclosure practices and transparency in both source and destination countries, including by seeking to ensure transparency in all financial transactions between Governments and companies to relevant tax authorities, while making sure that all companies, including multinationals, pay taxes to the Governments of countries where economic activity occurs and value is created, in accordance with national and international laws and policies;

27. *Decides* to hold a high-level dialogue on commodity markets at United Nations Headquarters during the first half of 2016, as an informal session to review world commodity trends and prospects and how they may have an impact on the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly in commodity-dependent countries, with the date and modalities of the dialogue to be set out in a resolution thereon;

28. *Calls upon* all relevant bodies, agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other relevant intergovernmental, global, regional and subregional organizations, in particular the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and all relevant international financial and economic institutions, within their respective mandates, to continue to address the issue of commodity markets and their functioning in relation to the capacity of Member States to achieve all Sustainable Development Goals by 2030;

29. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to include observer States in the implementation of the present resolution;

30. *Stresses* the importance of the continuing substantive consideration of the sub-item entitled "Commodities", and decides to include the sub-item in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "Macroeconomic policy questions";

31. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session a report on the updated assessment of commodity trends and prospects, long-term commodity prices and ways to strengthen coordination among international commodities organizations and other relevant international organizations, as well as ways to assess the impact of recent trends in commodity prices on development in commodity-dependent developing countries.

United Nations A/C.2/70/L.26

General Assembly

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4 November 2015

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Seventieth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 20 (e)
Sustainable development: implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa

South Africa:* draft resolution

Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 69/221 of 19 December 2014, as well as other resolutions relating to the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,[1]

Recalling also that the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development recognized the need for urgent action to reverse land degradation and, in view of this, for striving to achieve a land degradation-neutral world in the context of sustainable development,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", recognizing that it builds on the Millennium Development Goals and seeks to complete their unfinished business, and stressing the importance of the implementation of this new ambitious Agenda, which has poverty eradication at its core and aims at promoting the social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainable development,

Recalling that Sustainable Development Goal 15.3 states that by 2030, the international community should combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land degradation-neutral world,

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

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Noting that in striving to achieve Goal 15.3, it is also important to address wider elements of the 2030 Agenda, including ending poverty and hunger, tackling inequality, empowering women and stimulating economic growth,

Reaffirming its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it and helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions within the framework of a revitalized Global Partnership for Sustainable Development,

Noting in this regard that combating land degradation, desertification and drought, including through sustainable land management, can contribute to easing forced migration flows influenced by a number of factors, including economic, social, security and environmental concerns, which can, in turn, reduce the current and potential fighting over resources in degraded areas,

Acknowledging that striving to achieve land degradation neutrality would significantly contribute to the three dimensions of sustainable development through the rehabilitation, restoration, conservation and sustainable management of land resources, and that this could potentially involve the development of voluntary national targets,

Noting that desertification, land degradation, drought and climate change are closely related and that, if not addressed, they would pose a serious challenge to sustainable development for all countries, in particular developing countries,

Expressing its deep appreciation and gratitude to the Government of Turkey for hosting the twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, held in Ankara from 12 to 23 October 2015,

Concerned by the devastating consequences of extreme weather phenomena in arid, semi-arid and dry subhumid regions, characterized by recurrent and long spells of drought, flooding and increasing frequency and severity of dust-storms and sandstorms, and their negative impact on the environment and the economy,

Emphasizing the need to promote sustainable land management, sustainable forest management and the restoration of degraded lands in order to combat desertification, land degradation and drought,

Stressing the importance of inclusiveness within the United Nations development system and that observer States be taken into account in the implementation of the present resolution,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa;[2]

2. *Welcomes* the outcomes of the twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention;

3. *Encourages* developed countries party to the Convention to actively support the efforts of developing countries party to the Convention in promoting sustainable land management practices and in seeking to achieve land degradation

[2] A/70/230, sect. II.

neutrality by providing substantial financial resources, facilitated access to appropriate technology and other forms of support, including through capacity-building measures;

4. *Also encourages* developed country parties, and invites other countries in a position to do so, multilateral financial institutions, the private sector, civil society organizations and technical and financial institutions to:

(a) Provide scientific, technical and financial assistance to help affected countries party to the Convention requesting assistance to set and achieve voluntary land degradation neutrality targets and to implement sustainable land management practices and land degradation neutrality initiatives;

(b) Establish equitable partnerships that encourage responsible and sustainable investments and practices by the private sector, which contribute to achieving land degradation neutrality, which supports the health and productivity of the dry land and its people;

5. *Requests* the secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa and appropriate bodies of the Convention, within the scope of the Convention, to improve the effectiveness of collaboration with the secretariats of the other Rio conventions and other partners at the national and, as appropriate, subnational levels to support the implementation and monitoring and follow-up of voluntary land degradation neutrality targets and initiatives;

6. *Invites* the secretariat of the Convention, as the lead organization for desertification, land degradation and drought, to take the initiative and invite other relevant agencies and stakeholders such as United Nations agencies, international organizations, financial institutions, civil society organizations and the private sector, to seek cooperation to holistically achieve Sustainable Development Goal 15.3 and to work to address the relevant wider elements of the 2030 Agenda in an integrated manner;

7. *Reiterates* that degraded land, if recovered, would, inter alia, contribute to restoring natural resources, thus potentially improving food security and nutrition in the affected countries, and in the process could, inter alia, contribute to the absorption of carbon emissions;

8. *Decides* to include in the United Nations calendar of conferences and meetings for the biennium 2016-2017 the sessions of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and its subsidiary bodies envisaged for the biennium, and requests the Secretary-General to make provisions for the sessions of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017;

9. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to include observer States in the implementation of the present resolution;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session a report on the implementation of the United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification (2010-2020);

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-first session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa";

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-first session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

United Nations A/C.2/70/L.27

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
9 November 2015

Original: English

Seventieth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 23 (b)
Groups of countries in special situations: follow-up to the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries

South Africa:* draft resolution

Follow-up to the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Vienna Declaration and the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014-2024,[1] adopted at the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries, held in Vienna from 3 to 5 November 2014, at which all relevant stakeholders expressed their commitment to the implementation of the Programme of Action,

Reaffirming the overarching goal of the Vienna Programme of Action of addressing the special development needs and challenges of landlocked developing countries arising from their landlockedness, remoteness and geographical constraints in a more coherent manner and thus contributing to an enhanced rate of sustainable and inclusive growth, which can contribute to the eradication of poverty by moving towards the goal of ending extreme poverty,

Recalling its resolutions 69/137 of 12 December 2014 and 69/232 of 19 December 2014,

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[2]

Recalling further the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in 2012, entitled "The future we want",[3]

* On behalf of States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] Resolution 69/137, annexes I and II.

[2] Resolution 55/2.

[3] Resolution 66/288, annex.

Please recycle

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", recognizing that it builds on the Millennium Development Goals and seeks to complete their unfinished business, and stressing the importance of the implementation of this new ambitious Agenda, which has poverty eradication at its core and aims at promoting the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it and helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions within the framework of a revitalized Global Partnership for Sustainable Development,

Reaffirming further the Sendai Declaration and Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030,[4] while recognizing that landlocked developing countries face some specific disaster risk challenges, and reiterating the commitment to address disaster risk reduction and building resilience to disasters within the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication,

Mindful of the Almaty Declaration[5] and the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries,[6]

Recognizing that the lack of territorial access to the sea, aggravated by remoteness from world markets and high transit costs and risks, continues to impose serious constraints on export earnings, private capital inflow and domestic resource mobilization of landlocked developing countries and therefore adversely affects their overall growth and socioeconomic development,

Recognizing also the special vulnerabilities and needs of landlocked developing countries in terms of access to energy and the need to promote both public and private investment in energy infrastructure and clean energy technologies,

Stressing the importance of the effective participation of landlocked developing countries in the Sustainable Energy for All initiative and in Expo 2017, which will be held in Astana and which will focus on the theme, "Future Energy",

Acknowledging the need to promote meaningful regional integration to encompass cooperation among countries and the importance of enhancing existing transport infrastructure facilities for the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action,

Recognizing that the Vienna Programme of Action is based on renewed and strengthened partnerships to accompany landlocked developing countries in

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[4] Resolution 69/283, annexes I and II.

[5] *Report of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation, Almaty, Kazakhstan, 28 and 29 August 2003* (A/CONF.202/3), annex II.

[6] Ibid., annex I.

harnessing benefits from international trade, structurally transforming their economies and achieving more inclusive and sustainable growth,

Noting the Livingstone Call for Action for the Accelerated Implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries, adopted at the high-level follow-up ministerial meeting to the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries, held in Livingstone, Zambia, in June 2015,

Noting with appreciation the declaration of the high-level meeting of Heads of State and Government of landlocked developing countries on the theme "Linking Landlocked Developing Countries to Global Opportunities", held at United Nations Headquarters on 28 September 2015,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014-2024;[7]

2. *Welcomes* the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[8] which, inter alia, recognizes the specific challenges of landlocked developing countries in their pursuit of eradication of poverty and sustainable development;

3. *Affirms* the complementarity between the Sustainable Development Goals contained in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the important provisions of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda,[9] and the six priority areas of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014-2024,[10] and stresses that effective implementation of these plans of action would drive the social and economic progress of the landlocked developing countries and assist in the transformation of their economies from landlocked to land-linked countries;

4. *Recognizes* that landlocked developing countries face special needs and challenges in their efforts to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals, and in that regard underscores the importance of adequate international support, in various forms, that is well-aligned with their national priorities to address the special development needs of landlocked developing countries;

5. *Urges* Member States to mainstream the Vienna Programme of Action into their national and sectoral development strategies in order to ensure its effective implementation;

6. *Urges* development partners to provide targeted technical and financial support, as appropriate, towards the implementation of the specific actions listed in the Vienna Programme of Action;

7. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, and invites international organizations, such as the World Bank, the regional development banks, the World Trade Organization, the World Customs

[7] A/70/305.
[8] Resolution 70/1.
[9] Resolution 69/313, annex.
[10] Resolution 69/137, annex II.

Organization, the Common Fund for Commodities, regional economic integration organizations and other relevant regional and subregional organizations, to integrate the Vienna Programme of Action into their programmes of work, within their respective mandates, and to support landlocked and transit developing countries in the implementation of the Programme of Action in a well-coordinated and coherent manner;

8. *Appreciates* the efforts made by the governing bodies of the Economic Commission for Africa, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to mainstream the Vienna Programme of Action;

9. *Invites* the landlocked developing countries, transit countries, their development partners, the United Nations system and all other actors to implement the actions that have been agreed upon in the Vienna Programme of Action in its six priority areas, namely, fundamental transit policy issues, infrastructure development and maintenance, international trade and trade facilitation, regional integration and cooperation, structural economic transformation and means of implementation at all levels, in a coordinated, coherent and expeditious manner;

10. *Stresses* the need for landlocked developing countries and transit countries to enhance coordination and cooperation between their national agencies responsible for border and customs controls and procedures;

11. *Also stresses* the need to promote the harmonization of rules through the full and effective implementation of international conventions on transport and transit and of bilateral, subregional and regional agreements;

12. *Underlines* the critical importance of developing adequate and reliable infrastructure, including transit transport infrastructure, information and communications technology infrastructure and energy infrastructure, within landlocked developing countries in order to reduce high trading costs, improve connectivity and competitiveness and full integration in the global economy, taking into account national realities and capacities as well as the special needs caused by geographical disadvantage;

13. *Welcomes* the decision in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda to launch a new global infrastructure forum, and stresses the need for this forum to address the special development needs and challenges of landlocked developing countries;

14. *Calls upon* the international community and development partners to support infrastructure development in the landlocked developing countries through all sources, including public, private, public-private partnerships, official development assistance and innovative sources, in order to support national efforts to bridge the existing infrastructure gap and close missing links, which remain central to the successful implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action;

15. *Calls upon* multilateral financial and development institutions and regional development banks to provide the landlocked developing countries with targeted access to long-term financing at concessional and affordable rates for infrastructure development and maintenance, including the establishment of special window borrowing facilities for landlocked developing countries;

16. *Underlines* the importance of international trade and trade facilitation as one of the priorities of the Vienna Programme of Action, and reaffirms that the

greater integration of landlocked developing countries into world trade and global value chains is vital to increasing their competitiveness and efficiency and ensuring their economic development;

17. *Calls for* the balanced, ambitious and development-oriented outcome of the Doha Development Agenda,[11] consistent with the development mandate of the negotiations, and requests that the special needs, challenges and vulnerabilities of landlocked developing countries be taken fully into account;

18. *Invites* members of the World Trade Organization to consider early ratification of the World Trade Organization trade facilitation agreement as soon as possible, in order to bring it into force so as to improve trade facilitation and reduce trade transaction costs;

19. *Calls upon* the international community to provide the adequate technical and financial assistance necessary to help landlocked developing countries to realize the full benefits of the trade facilitation agreement, and to support the ultimate goal of full implementation of this new agreement;

20. *Stresses* the need to provide attention to the concerns and needs of the landlocked developing countries within the framework of the World Trade Organization, as appropriate, in order to increase their participation in the multilateral trading system, and in this regard invites the members of the World Trade Organization to consider exploring the possibility of a work programme which would focus primarily, but not exclusively, on the areas of trade facilitation, trade diversification, services, aid for trade, electronic commerce and accession to the World Trade Organization, in a manner consistent with its guidelines;

21. *Reaffirms* that non-physical barriers, delays and inefficiencies associated with border crossings and ports continue to make transport costs high, and in this regard recognizes that further streamlining and harmonization of customs and transit procedures and formalities and transparent and efficient border management and coordination of agencies involved in border clearance would have a concrete and direct impact on reducing the cost of doing trade and stimulating faster and more competitive trade for landlocked developing countries;

22. *Calls upon* development partners to effectively implement the Aid for Trade initiative, giving adequate consideration to the special needs and requirements of landlocked developing countries, including capacity-building for the formulation of trade policies, participation in trade negotiations and the implementation of trade facilitation measures, as well as the diversification of export products;

23. *Calls upon* international and regional organizations, including the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the World Bank, the World Customs Organization and the regional development banks, to establish special programmes and dedicated windows for the landlocked developing countries in order to assist them with the execution and scaling-up of trade facilitation initiatives and the effective implementation of international, regional and subregional conventions and other legal instruments on transit and trade facilitation;

24. *Calls upon* the international community to support the promotion of meaningful regional integration and cooperation among countries in a broader range

[11] See A/C.2/56/7, annex.

of areas, beyond trade and trade facilitation, to include investment, research and development and policies and projects aimed at accelerating regional industrial development and regional connectivity;

25. *Recognizes* that the economies of many landlocked developing countries are still reliant on a few export commodities, which often have low value addition, and calls upon the international community and the development partners to enhance efforts to support landlocked developing countries in diversifying their economic base, to encourage, on mutually agreed terms, the transfer of technologies, including information and communications technology, and to enhance value addition to their exports through the development of their productive capacities, including through private sector involvement, and the development of small- and medium-sized enterprises, with a view to increasing the competitiveness of the products of landlocked developing countries in export markets, and in this regard, welcomes the launching of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda;

26. *Stresses* the importance of promoting structural economic transformation in landlocked developing countries to build their productive capacity, and in this regard calls upon the international community to support their efforts towards economic and export diversification, increasing value addition in their manufacturing and agriculture sectors and the development of the service sectors, finance, information and communications technology and sustainable tourism;

27. *Underlines* the prominent role that foreign direct investment plays in accelerating development and poverty reduction through employment, the transfer of managerial and technological know-how and non-debt-creating flows of capital, recognizes the considerable role and potential of private sector involvement in infrastructure development for transport, telecommunications and utilities for landlocked developing countries, encourages Member States to facilitate foreign direct investment flows to landlocked developing countries in this regard, and calls upon landlocked and transit developing countries to promote an enabling environment to attract foreign direct investment and private sector involvement;

28. *Expresses concern* that the economic growth and social well-being of landlocked developing countries remain highly vulnerable to external shocks and to the multiple challenges faced by the international community, and invites the international community to assist landlocked developing countries in resolving their challenges and strengthening their resilience in their effort towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and the six priorities of the Vienna Programme of Action;

29. *Recognizes* the adverse impacts of climate change, land degradation, desertification and deforestation on the economies of landlocked developing countries, and calls upon the international community to enhance support for the efforts of landlocked developing countries to address these challenges in an integrated manner, including undertaking further research on the impacts of climate change in landlocked developing countries;

30. *Urges* those landlocked developing countries that have not yet done so to accede to or to ratify, at their earliest convenience, the Multilateral Agreement for the Establishment of an International Think Tank for Landlocked Developing Countries in order to fully operationalize the think tank;

31. *Invites* the developing countries, guided by the spirit of solidarity and consistent with their capabilities, to provide support for the effective implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action in mutually agreed areas of cooperation within the framework of South-South cooperation, which is a complement to, but not a substitute for, North-South cooperation;

32. *Urges* all development partners for sustainable development to provide and to strengthen their targeted support and assistance to landlocked developing countries to develop and improve their national institutional and human capacities and capabilities for data collection, analysis and dissemination;

33. *Invites* the private sector to contribute to the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action in the respective areas of competence and in line with the national priorities of the landlocked developing countries;

34. *Stresses* that the specific needs and challenges of landlocked developing countries should be given due consideration in the follow-up and review process of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

35. *Underlines* the importance of successful implementation, follow-up and review of the Vienna Programme of Action at the national, subregional, regional and global levels;

36. *Stresses* that, in accordance with the mandate given by the General Assembly, the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States will ensure the coordinated follow-up to, effective monitoring of and reporting on the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action and will undertake advocacy efforts at the national, regional and global levels, and also stresses that the Office, in collaboration with other relevant stakeholders, should work on developing relevant indicators for measuring the progress on implementing the Programme of Action in landlocked developing countries, within their existing mandates;

37. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-first session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, including the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action, highlighting the progress made by the landlocked developing countries with regard to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda;

38. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-first session, under the item entitled "Groups of countries in special situations", the sub-item entitled "Follow-up to the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries".